



## WHAT HIDERS GOD TO LISTEN OUR PRAYERS

### A NECESSARY REVELATION: THE CONDITION OF THEIR HEARTS

1. Isaiah is the whistleblower: a critical warning of their public apostasy! Is. 58: 1
2. A public declaration of their hearts condition Is.58:2

#### Life Application

*What necessary revelation of your hidden life needs to come out in the open?*

### A NECESSARY REALIZATION: RELIGIOUS ACTS ARE USELESS

1. The complaint: God does not hear us! Is.58:3
2. The problem: dualistic heart Is.58:5

#### Life lesson

*Did you notice why your prayers are not answered?*

*God wants you to come out in the open with your corrupted heart. Stop hiding!*

### A NECESSARY LIFE-CHANGE: REPENTANCE IS NEEDED

1. How to be acceptable before the Lord? Is.58:5 d
2. Life change is hard Is.58:6-14

#### Life lesson

*The only way to have your prayers heard is to repent and obey.*

*Today you can do it: are you going to continue the same dualistic life?*

## Life Group Homework/ Bible Study & Food for Thought

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

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*NIV – New International Version or where is the case we use ESV- English Standard Version*

### Quick Review

Looking back at your notes from this week teaching, was there anything new you learned or anything that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### DIGGING DEEPER

*Isaiah 58:1–14* “Cry loudly, do not hold back; Raise your voice like a trumpet, And declare to My people their transgression And to the house of Jacob their sins. “Yet they seek Me day by day and delight to know My ways, As a nation that has done righteousness And has not forsaken the ordinance of their God. They ask Me for just decisions, They delight in the nearness of God. ‘Why have we fasted and You do not see? Why have we humbled ourselves and You do not notice?’ Behold, on the day of your fast you find your desire, And drive hard all your workers. “Behold, you fast for contention and strife and to strike with a wicked fist. You do not fast like you do today to make your voice heard on high. “Is it a fast like this which I choose, a day for a man to humble himself? Is it for bowing one’s head like a reed And for spreading out sackcloth and ashes as a bed? Will you call this a fast, even an acceptable day to the LORD? “Is this not the fast which I choose, To loosen the bonds of wickedness, To undo the bands of the yoke, And to let the oppressed go free And break every yoke? “Is it not to divide your bread with the hungry And bring the homeless poor into the house; When you see the naked, to cover him; And not to hide yourself from your own flesh? “Then your light will break out like the dawn, And your recovery will speedily spring forth; And your righteousness will go before you; The glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. “Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; You will cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’ If you remove the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger and speaking wickedness, And if you give yourself to the hungry And satisfy the desire of the afflicted, Then your light will rise in darkness And your gloom will become like midday. “And the LORD will continually guide you, And satisfy your desire in scorched places, And give strength to your bones; And you will be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. “Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the streets in which to dwell.

“If because of the sabbath, you turn your foot From doing your own pleasure on My holy day, And call the sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable, And honor it, desisting from your own ways, From seeking your own pleasure And speaking your own word, Then you will take delight in the LORD, And I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; And I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

### Questions:

1. How difficult is for you to come out from hiding and to share your heart’s problems?
2. How do you do your self-examination?
3. Read Isaiah 58 and try to find those expressions, words which speak about your necessary change.
4. How to avoid living in secret? How to overcome your blind spots: join or lead a life group!



**LIFE GROUPS**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Month of
							Notes

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Month of
							Notes

**Commitment to Personal Goals:**

1. Scripture Reading (specific and attainable)
2. Scripture Memorization (verse/ passage)
3. Relationships/ Evangelism
4. Personal

**Group Goals**

- ▲ LOOK UP towards Christ
  - Grow in love for Christ and confidence in Him
- ▼ LOOK DOWN into the God's Word
  - Learn God's word and how to study it
  - Apply God's word to my life in specific ways
- ▶ LOOK IN at my own life
  - Identify and fight against sin in my life
  - Cultivate godly character and spiritual maturity
  - Improve my devotional life or reading and prayer
- ◀ LOOK OUT towards others
  - Serve other church members purposefully
  - Nurture relationships for accountability and prayer
  - Strengthen n the relationships within my home
  - Develop loving friendships with outsiders for the purpose of evangelism

**Responsibilities for Group Members**

1. Be committed to GCC and its mission, leadership and goals of LG
2. Attend Sunday services each week, or let someone in the group know why I miss
3. Prioritize group meetings by arriving on time each week
4. Complete any assignments for the group and come prepared to participate
5. Participate in meetings without disrupting or monopolizing the time and attention of others
6. Cultivate trust within the group and be honest, transparent and teachable
7. Show love, concern and hospitality to visitors