



Praying as families for the needed grace to forgive rather than blame others.

Day 26

Accusing, pointing fingers, blaming others caught heaven's attention more than prayer. In Isaiah 58: 9, God points out how his people who are fasting and praying are also pointing their fingers at each other. This does not really look like a huge sin that can keep away prayers from reaching to God. These sins do not look big to many of us, but these are sins that God points out against his people for not listening to their prayers.

Our pointing of fingers and blaming has to do with an attitude that "I am right and the other person is wrong". This could be true when we look at our life through the lens of our own righteousness. When we look at our life from the lens of how God has forgiven and redeemed us from our faults and failures, we will become more gracious and forgiving towards others. This pointing of finger often comes from a heart that is prideful. There are times, I have been guilty of this attitude where I'm trying desperately to defend my innocence by pointing my finger at the other person who I think is at fault. This complaint from God should have been a great surprise to God's people as no one thinks of something as insignificant as "pointing fingers" that comes as a hindrance to our prayers.

How many families today continue to blame and point fingers at others for the situation they are in? They hide their folly and do not see their contribution to their own issue. This even started at the garden of Eden between Adam and Eve, where they started blaming each other instead of acknowledging their own sins. When it would have been easy for Joseph to point his fingers against his brothers, he took a different attitude by seeing what God has accomplished even through the wicked act of his brothers. When we understand that God orchestrates every situation for our good when we surrender and offer our life to God we will stop pointing our fingers at others. Rather, we will be glad that God used these difficult people into our life to even accomplish His greater purpose.



In the larger body of Christ, pointing fingers based on doctrinal convictions continues to divide us and cause walls of hostility among God's people. While one can cherish and feel comfortable about one's tradition and doctrine, there needs to be an embracing spirit to accept those who differ from us as we belong to His body as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. It's time we shed these prejudices and begin to see one another as God's agent in this world through which His kingdom is spreading into all the world.

Lets ask the Lord for a heart of love and grace to accept each other, May the Almighty God lead us to unite our hearts in a new sense of appreciation of each other than a spirit of division and hatred.

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, we understand from your word that blaming and pointing fingers at each other within your body causes lot of grief to you. We confess with all our heart for those who we have blamed and have spoken ill off to justify ourselves. Give us the grace to look at those with whom we differ through the eyes of Jesus, so that we can have more compassion and love rather than condemnation and prejudice. We confess our wrong doing even as a body of Christ by which we have treated others who differ from us in a bad way which we understand has caused you grief. Give us truly a heart that sees things beyond our differences, so that your Name will not be disdained by our judgmental attitude. Help us by your Spirit. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen.

