

# VINEYARD church

## PRAYER & FASTING

### DAY 20

#### Scripture Focus

*"Then Jesus said to them, 'Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.'"*

– Mark 4:13-20 (NIV)

#### The Power of God's Word

When I finished Highschool, I joined a missionary program called YWAM (Youth with a Mission). For the first few months it was all about studying His word, so that when it came time for us to go overseas, we would be ready to spread the gospel to the unreached people of the world. It was incredible to see what God was able to do in the hearts of everyone I interacted with, but I didn't expect what he was going to do in me. As I continued to read the bible everyday, not only did I feel a difference in my thoughts, but I also felt what I only could describe as my eyes becoming clean.

Fast forward today, I am now able to help people understand the importance of God's word, and share moments with my wife reading the bible and listening for the Lord to speak to us. It takes more planning to put it into practice with all the things that could distract us, but it is so worth it!

#### What is distracting you?

As we have gone through these 21 days of prayer and fasting you have probably made it more of priority to focus on the bible, which is great! But, maybe you are struggling to be in God's Word on a regular basis. Your job keeps you busy, your kids take up all your free time, that tv show/movie is something you have wanted to watch for a while, or maybe social media is where you spend your time. None of these are bad, but if the Lord is left out of your daily routine, then you are missing out on what God could do for you.

I want to challenge you, what is a distraction in your life that you could either set down, or take 5min, 10min, or longer, and give that time to spend with the Lord?

#### Prayer

*Lord, thank you so much for your Word. It guides me in the direction that you want me to go. Help me to continue to set time aside to spend with You and in your Word. And as I read, renew my mind, fix my eyes on what you want me to see. Amen.*

*Maxell Wiens*

Associate Pastor of Groups