



DAY 5

*Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.*

Psalm 139:23 NLT

Entering a “new season” isn’t without introspection. Asking the Lord to inspect the heart is a good place to start. The frustration and anxiety of a “new season” can cause us to feel that the change is not worth it. God can dig deep to expose the issues of the heart to us, issues that may keep us from going forward. Only God can know and search the heart. So entering the “new season” is not something we should attempt on our own. For the heart entering a “new season” may grip us with insecurities and fear. Our minds may be ready to go forward but our hearts are afraid of pain, disappointment, rejection and other deep negative emotions. These may be there because the enemy has sowed lies that stir such emotions. Even in these circumstances, God can expose the seeds and roots of these lies so that they can be addressed. “Expose” sounds like such a bad thing at times. The enemy loves to scare us into non-action because he tells us that if we are “exposed” we will be ashamed. Shame is just another clever lie from the devil that we must expel! Pray that the Holy Spirit would effectively root out all issues in our hearts which would keep us in bondage to the “old season”.

MARRIAGES

Today we are praying for Marriages:

1. Godly marriages are beautiful. Having a good spouse is a gift from God. Pray for marriages that are doing well, that God would keep those relationships safe and secure. Pray that the husband and the wife would be a demonstration of Christ and the Church on earth.
2. Pray for struggling marriage relationships. Pray that God would reconcile couples. Pray that hearts and lives be brought back together – in sync as they face life together. Pray the Holy Spirit will convict of sin, righteousness and judgement.
3. Pray for married couples struggling with parasites in their marriage... Parasites are those things that drain the relationship – addictions and bad habits; as poor choices that are made individually instead of a couple.
4. Pray for couples where manipulation and narcissism are a problem.
5. Pray for prospective marriage partners, that they will build a solid foundation on Jesus before embarking on the marriage journey. Pray that they would seek marriage coaches and counsellors who will effectively counsel and advise them.
6. Pray that godly, married couples would walk beside other prospective marriage partners – to guide them through the process and adjustment of married life.
7. Pray that marriage would become a serious issue. In today's throw-away culture, marriage is quickly dumped for the smallest issue. Marriage is hard work – pray that couples would understand this and commit themselves to the task – and see it through.