

**“Willful Ignorance – Blinded by Disobedience”**  
**5 Blind Spots Blocking God’s Work in You, Part 6**  
6/21 & 6/24/18

It is so easy to be blind to the **REALITY** of our own lives

Psalm 119:29 (NLT) “Keep me from lying to myself;...”

We continually need to check our vision by relying on the objectivity of those who **KNOW US**, including **GOD**

Psalm 11:29 (NLT) “Keep me from lying to myself; give me the privilege of knowing Your instructions.”

Isaiah 43:8 (NAS) “Bring out the people who are blind, even though they have eyes, & the deaf, even though they have ears.”

When we are caught up in our own world, seeing things the way we want to see them, it is hard to see the truth about what we are doing **WRONG**

**Obedience: The Key to Overcoming Willful Ignorance**

It would be natural to think the key to overcoming willful ignorance is **KNOWLEDGE**, but that is not the case. The key is **OBEDIENCE**.

To know God’s will we have to do more than just **READ** about it; we have to **DO** what He tells us to do John 8:31-32 (GN) “So Jesus said to those who believed in Him, ‘If you obey My teaching, you are really My disciples; <sup>32</sup>you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV) “[Jesus said] <sup>24</sup>‘Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup>The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. <sup>26</sup>But everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup>The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.’”

**ACTING** on truth removes our blind spots because truth helps us see beyond those blind spots into the wide-open vistas of **REALITY**

All **TRUTH** is from God, and truth **CONFORMS** us to the way He created us to live

Romans 8:29 (NIV) “For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son,...”

Many of us go through life looking for the **EASY** path

If you find yourself in the midst of something you **KNOW** is not right and decide to look the other way, you are not being obedient to the **TRUTH**

James 4:17 (NLT) “Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.”

**Key Question:** What area(s) in your own life have you **NEGLECTED** because you **REFUSED** to look at them?

Your willful ignorance has become a blind spot, and in order to move into **FREEDOM**, those problem areas must no longer be **OVERLOOKED**

It is easy to think that by not dealing with a problem it will somehow magically **GO AWAY** – it doesn’t;

the problem only gets **WORSE**

You must become the policeman of your life, and that means you must **STOP** turning a blind eye to your problems

**RESPONSIBLE ACTION** must replace irresponsible, willful blindness

Out of this new mind-set of awareness, a whole new way of **LIVING EMERGES**

**Summary of Our Common Blind Spots**

**You have to...**

- release your stubborn resistance
- let go of your arrogant entitlement
- put away your justifiable resentments
- come out of your disconnected isolation
- refuse to live in willful ignorance

**In their places, you must pick up...**

- willingness to change
- humility
- forgiveness
- intimacy
- obedience

Matthew 11:27-30 (NIV) “[Jesus said] ‘Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.’”

**My Next Step Today Is:**

- I have a blind spot in my life, and beginning this week I will take action on it

**Next week:** Join us as we explore “Moving Into the Future With a New Perspective.” Invite a friend!

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