

THE DANGER OF BEING DISTRACTED

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Matthew 16:21-23

Distractions are hidden traps that stop you from achieving your goals. A distraction is something that sparks your interest. If something does not interest you it will not have the ability to distract you. Distractions are the primary things that robs people of the gift of **TIME**. A distraction will appeal to your wants so you will ignore your needs.

When you pursue what you want and neglect what you need you have **ALLOWED** distractions to delay your progress. Your needs provide your fulfillment and contentment. Your wants provide your excitement and pleasure. When you allow yourself to be distracted, time will become your greatest enemy. Being distracted will steal your time, waste your energy and displace your effort.

THE ENEMY WANTS TO OCCUPY YOUR TIME.

GOD WANTS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR TIME.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OCCUPYING AND MAXIMIZING

The most deceptive thing about a distraction is the appearance of productivity. Distractions give you the **ILLUSION** that you are using your time wisely. The purpose of a distraction is to occupy a void that should be maximized.

When your time is being **OCCUPIED** and not maximized you will not be **EFFECTIVE** nor **PRODUCTIVE**. When distractions occupy your time you will be busy doing nothing. A person who is busy doing nothing will exert a massive amount of energy while producing no results.

The people whose time is occupied with distractions will be doing everything while completing nothing. Being

distracted will **PREVENT** you from **COMPLETING** what you are attempting to achieve. The enemy knows there is no reward for incompleteness. God does not bless what is **NOT** finished. People do not respect what is not completed. You will not be satisfied with what is not done.

With every race there is a trophy. With every program there is a certificate of completion. If the enemy can stop you from finishing what you started he has stopped you from being prosperous. Every distraction is meant to keep you enslaved to poverty. Do not allow a distraction to blind you to your destiny.

JESUS REBUKE DISTRACTIONS

Matthew 16:21-23

Jesus knew His purpose. He understood God's plan for His life. When Peter attempted to **DISTRACT** Jesus from His goal Jesus rebuke him because He knew the only thing that could hinder his destiny was a distraction. The devil **CANNOT** stop you from achieving your destiny.

Your enemies **CANNOT** stop you from achieving your destiny. The **ONLY** thing that can stop you from reaching your destiny is a distraction because distractions are self inflicted.

Remember this!

THE ONLY THING THAT CAN DEFEAT YOU IS
WHAT YOU ALLOW.

Jesus rebuked Peter because He was a distraction to His purpose. When Peter attempted to shift the direction of Jesus purpose Jesus did not entertain the distraction. He **IMMEDIATELY** removed it. When you focus on distractions, they will influence your behavior and delay your progress. Think about this! Jesus gave time to the devil when He had a conversation with him in Matthew chapter 4.

Jesus gave time to the Pharisees throughout the four Gospels of the New Testament even though they were trying to kill Him. However, He **DID NOT** give time to

Peter when he was attempting to **DISTRACT** Him. Jesus understood the power of a distraction, which is why He **NEVER** entertained it. Follow the example of Jesus and rebuke every distraction that comes in your life.

Remember...**THE ONLY THING THAT CAN DEFEAT YOU IS WHAT YOU ALLOW.**

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