

Hidden Sin: Barrier to Healing

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. - Psalm 66:18

Cherished Iniquity

- An unknown sin
 - Innocence or naivete (Jn 15:22; Jas 4:17)
 - Comfort level, a sense of normalcy
 - Coping strategy
- A known sin we are hiding from others
 - Distraction
 - Minimization
 - Deception
- A known sin we are hiding from ourselves
 - Justification
 - Busyness
 - Isolation or compartmentalization
 - Misdirection
 - Excuses

Symptoms

- Physical: conflict or pain
 - Health issues
- Emotional: unpleasant emotions
 - Worry, fear, and panic
 - Sadness, depression
- Spiritual: relational conflict
 - Can't approach God
 - Irreconcilable differences with others

Removing Sin

- We all have sin in our hearts
 - No one is righteous (Rom 3:10-12)
 - All have sinned (Rom 3:23)
- The Spirit convicts of sin
 - Ask Him (Ps 51:10)
 - Listen to Him (Ez 36:25-27)
- Take account of your offenses toward God
 - What does He feel, think, and want
- Confess and be forgiven
- Ask Him for what you need
 - Release short-cuts, second best, empty promises
- Repent
 - Change your behavior
- Expect new symptoms