

"A man ought to examine himself..." - I Corinthians 11:28



DISCIPLESHIP

"It is required of a steward that a man be found faithful." - I Corinthians 4:2

"Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?" - Luke 6:46

"A man who has no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down and without walls." - Proverbs 25:28

The Disciple's Disciplines

Luke 9:57-62

I. Level One Discipleship

A disciple's faithfulness can be measured by the things he does. A man is known by his ways; your fruits you will know them. What are you doing regularly, systematically, in a disciplined fashion that distinguishes you as a true disciple?

1. Daily Prayer

Jesus set the pace for his disciples. He was God incarnate but it was necessary for him to have a regular, faithful, life of prayer. Do you have a prayer closet as Jesus commanded? (Matthew 6:6)

2. <u>Reading the Word</u>

God's word cannot be underestimated in its value and importance to the growing soul. Without it you cannot know Jesus Christ. Without a regular diet of its vitamins you will become anemic. Neglect of this area will result in disappointing a Christian life. The parable of the Sower is a prime example for the saint. Neglect of the word – whatever the reason results is weak faith. (Psalm 119:11, Joshua 1:8, Deut. 6:6-9, Deut. 17:19)

3. <u>Regular Sunday Worship</u>

Jesus made it clear that every disciple was to SEEK IN FIRST PLACE the kingdom of God, then everything else will fall into place. Get that screwed up and you Christian life will be a fiasco. How do you seek God in first place? Can God occupy an equal place to Sunday football, sports, entertainment, personal leisure, rest, vacations, etc.? NO! Hebrews 10:25 is uncompromising – "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together...and much more as you see Christ return approaching.". Deal with it.

4. <u>Responsible Fellowship</u>

Fellowship is what you do with other disciples. An interesting study of the Scriptures is to explore what God says we are to do with ONE ANOTHER. There are 58 "one another" passages in the New Testament. The church of the book of Acts is an excellent example. (Acts 2:42-47, Hebrews 10:24) This fellowship is not just social events but a personal and corporate accountability one to another. Cell groups, bible study groups are excellent places where this can happen.

5. Faithful Ministry and Service

A disciple is not called to live a life of leisure. We are not called to serve self. We are called to give up our lives for Jesus sake, to invest in his kingdom; to do his will on earth as it is done in heaven. Service is finding your place in the kingdom and waiting on your ministry. It is not the church ministry – it is YOUR ministry. (Mark 13:34, Rom 12:6-8)

II. Level Two Discipleship

As you grow more mature in Christ so you disciplines and godly habits will grow with you. Diminishing habits show diminishing commitments. What vows are you performing before the Lord?

1. Diligent Study of the Word

The call to read the Word is only the beginning. Paul urges Timothy to know the word, memorize the word, preach, teach the word, and study the word. Studying the word means that you become a student of the Bible. God's word holds a special place in your heart and life. You search it, memorize it, study it, explore it, obey it, and share it. (Acts 17:11, 2 Timothy 2:15, Hebrews 5:12-14)

2. <u>Tithing & Giving</u>

God wants to bless his people with prosperity. But unless we learn the true meaning of money we cannot be blessed no matter how much we make. Managing our money is a major issue with Jesus Christ. You cannot serve God and money. Money must take a subservient place. (Luke 6:38; Matthew 33-34)

3. Bold Witness

That a disciple is a soldier who holds up the flag of his King is beyond question. Jesus makes the issue of speaking up for him a matter of discipleship. "If you are ashamed of me and my words in this sinful culture, I will be ashamed of you before my Father in heaven and before the holy angels." (Luke 9:23-24) Witnessing is not a program, but a lifestyle decision. Will you blush to own his name? (Jude 1:3) Do you earnestly contend for the faith?

4. Sacrificial Service

Not only are we called to service in ministry with the gifts God has entrusted to us; we are also called upon to live a life of sacrificial service. (Romans 12:1-2) It is our reasonable service. This means to stretch ourselves beyond our means to serve Christ.

5. Intercessory Prayer – Prayer and Fasting

No one will ever win battles without waging war. And war can only be waged on the battlefield. The battlefield for spiritual warfare is ON OUR KNEES. (Ephesians 6:18 and I Corinthians 10:4-5, Matthew 19:15) Do you exercise spiritual authority in prayer?

Conclusion:

Are you more disciplined today than you were last year? (2 years ago, 5 years ago, 10 years ago, 20 years ago?)

Are you <u>maturing</u> in Christ? Are you <u>stronger</u> in faith? More <u>disciplined</u>? More <u>faithful</u>? More <u>dedicated</u>? More <u>Christ-centered</u>? More <u>loving</u> and <u>giving</u>?

The Test of a Disciple's Maturity

Rate yourself from 1-10. Ten being the highest mark.

I. LEVEL ONE DISCIPLESHIP

Daily Prayer

- ♦ Is prayer a daily discipline?
- ♦ Is talking to God your delight?
- ♦ Is it an important part of every day?

Reading the Word

- ♦ Is the Bible a daily part of your life?
- ♦ Do you let God speak to you through it daily?
- ♦ Do you memorize and claim it's promises?

Sunday Worship

- ♦ Do you faithfully attend worship on the Lord's Day?
- ♦ Do you attend worship even on vacations?
- ♦ Are you in God's house every Sunday?

Fellowship

- Do you eat together with believers in their homes?
- ♦ Do you attend a home fellowship once a week?
- ♦ Do you have a prayer partner in the church?

Faithful Ministry

- ♦ Do you weekly serve God is some capacity?
- ♦ Do you have a servant's heart?
- ♦ Do you look for opportunities to serve the Lord?

Total Score Level One _____

II. LEVEL TWO DISCIPLESHIP

Study of the Word

- ♦ Do you systematically study the Word of God?
- ♦ Are you growing in your knowledge of Jesus Christ?
- ♦ Are you hungry for the Word?

Tithing & Giving

- ♦ Is tithing a part of your spiritual commitment?
- ♦ Do you give to God joyfully?
- ♦ Do you seek to bless others in your giving?

Bold Witness

- ♦ Do you boldly speak up for the Lord Jesus at work?
- ♦ Do you meet with unbelievers in order to witness?
- ♦ Do you share your testimony often?

Sacrificial Service

- ♦ Have you given up something in order to serve Jesus lately?
- O you often say "yes" to Jesus and no to your own pleasures, and wants?
- ♦ Do you sacrifice your time for the Lord?

Fasting and Prayer

- ♦ Do you fast and prayer regularly?
- ♦ Are you growing in prayer skills?
- ♦ Do you hunger after God?

Total Score Level One _____ Total Score Level Two _____

What will be your goals for the coming year? How will you improve?

Highlight in yellow each step you need to work on.

A Disciple's God-Time Schedule

Go through the process of budgeting your time. Evaluate your priorities with your actual expenditure of time on the Lord. Don't exaggerate, but neither should you underestimate. You may have to add a category, like family devotions, choir as ministry prep, or worship team ministry which doubles as worship time.

Event	Calendar Schedule	Hours Spent
Devotions		
Sunday School		
Worship a.m.		
Worship p.m.		
Prayer Mtg		
Ministry Preps.		
Ministry Tasks		
Other		
	Sub Total	hours
Leadership time		
Leadership time		
	Total	hours

If you total more than 10 ½ hours then you are maxed out beyond reasonable expectations. You ought not to add to your schedule more activities unless you are retired and have time to give. If you total less than 6 hours you probably need to add some God -time.

If you find your are "cheating" yourself and God of the time allotted to him then it is time to begin prioritizing the King in your life. Maybe you should increase your devotional time, or start attending Sunday School, church, or a Bible Study. If you find that you have not given God any Ministry Time then look at the Jobs For Jesus sheet provided in your church and decide how you will serve the King.

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." --Jim Elliott from Through Gates of Splendor by Elisabeth Elliott

"Only one life 'twill soon be past only what's done for Christ will last"

SURVEY OF PRAYER HABITS

This is a general survey of prayer habits. I am not so much interested in the results or score as I am the survey's affect on you. Are you convicted about your prayer life? Do you feel it is not what it ought to be? If yes, then the survey has served a good purpose. Go and work on change.

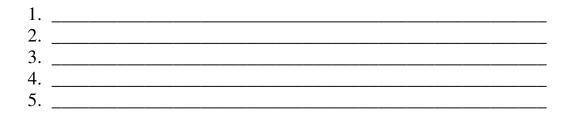
You cannot change everything at once, but choose the most desired disciplines mentioned here and work on those, one at a time. There are no "perfect pray-ers" any more than there are perfect people. Perfection is found in the constant pursuit of God. Paul said, "*I have not yet attained, neither am I yet perfect, but I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of Christ.*". Are you passionately pursuing Him?

- _____ Do you have a daily quiet time alone with God?
- _____ Do you regularly read and meditate on Scripture?
- _____ Do you have a literal prayer closet?
- _____ Do you use a specific prayer pattern as you pray?
- _____ Do you have a prayer plan?
- _____ Do you have a prayer calendar?
- _____ Do you regularly fast?
- _____ Do you have a prayer partner?
- _____ Do you meet once a week with your prayer partner?
- _____ Do you have a prayer accountability partner?
- _____ Do you model prayer for others?
- _____ Do attend a corporate prayer meeting?
- _____ Do you study books on prayer?
- _____ Do you have a prayer diary or prayer journal?
- _____ Do you pray out loud when you are alone?
- _____ Do you pray out loud in public (before other people)?
- _____ Do you keep a prayer list?

- _____ Do you record your prayer requests and answers?
- _____ Do you practice spiritual warfare praying?
- _____ Do you praise and sing aloud to God privately?
- _____ Do you pray with people about their needs?
- _____ Do you ever lay hands on people when you pray for them?
- _____ Do you have a variety of prayer positions?
- _____ Do you ever dedicate whole days to prayer?
- _____ Do you systematically go on prayer retreats?
- ____ Do people seek you out to pray for them?
- _____ Do people seek you out to teach them to pray?
- _____ Do you see miraculous answers to your prayers?
- _____ Do the sick recover when you pray for them?
- _____ Do you ever shed tears when you pray?
- _____ Do you pray for a top then, or top three list of unsaved?
- _____ Do you mentor, coach, or teach prayer?
- _____ Do you always pray before your meals?
- _____ Do you pray daily with your spouse?
- _____ Do you pray daily with your children? (if at home)
- _____ Do you hunger for more of God?
- _____ Do you pray in tongues or have a prayer language?

OK, how did you do? It is not our intention to pass or fail you on these questions. No one should be able to check all of them. Yet, there are questions here that should make you hungry to know more of God and to experience more of his power in your prayer life. Make that your goal. Pick a few and list them below. Now begin daily to lay these before the Lord asking for his renewal and refreshing in your prayer life. God bless you! He will!

Lord, change my prayer life in these areas:



A Disciple's Spiritual Life Inventory

This spiritual life inventory is designed to be a self-test, not a way of judging others. It is unscientific, yet it can be a vital aid in thinking about and evaluating your spiritual life and growth. Do it prayerfully, without excuses. Be brutally honest before God remembering Hebrews 4: - all things are open and nakedly exposed before him to whom we must give an account.

Obedience t	to Christ
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Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Are you personally committed to serving Jesus Christ as Lord?	2	1	0
2. Have you had a basic discipleship/mentored experience?	2	1	0
3. Have you been baptized by immersion as an youth/adult?	2	1	0
4. Have you become a member of your local church?	2	1	0
5. Are you regular in church attendance (3-4 Sundays per month)?	2	1	0
6. Do you participate in the communion service at least monthly?	2	1	0
7. Do you tithe regularly?	2	1	0
8. Do you give regularly to missions?	2	1	0
9. Are you weekly participating in a church ministry or service?	2	1	0
10. Do you regularly fellowship with believers in a small group?	2	1	0
11. Do you boldly share your testimony with others?	2	1	0
12. Have you ever brought or won someone to Christ?	2	1	0
13. Is Jesus Lord of every area of your life?	2	1	0
14. Do you delight in God's commands?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Knowledge of the Word

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Have you memorized sufficient Scriptures (know at least 30 verses by heart)?	2	1	0
2. Do you currently practice the discipline of Bible memorization?	2	1	0
3. Can you list the10 commandments, and recite the Lord's Prayer, the 23 rd Psalm?	2	1	0
4. Do you know the books of Bible by heart?	2	1	0
5. Do you know most of the stories of Bible?	2	1	0
6. Have you ever studied the principle doctrines of the Bible?	2	1	0
7. Do regularly study the Bible on your own (not just read it)?	2	1	0
8. Do you know how to do a "Word Study" of Bible word?	2	1	0
9. Have you ever taught a Bible class?	2	1	0
10. Are presently teaching the Bible to someone?	2	1	0
11. Do you know how to use a concordance?	2	1	0
12. Do you read the Bible every day?	2	1	0
13. Have you ever read the Bible through in a year?	2	1	0
14. Are you reading the Bible through this year?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Prayer Life

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Do you have a prayer time every day?	2	1	0
2. Do you have a prayer closet where you go alone to pray?	2	1	0
3. Do you attend a prayer meeting weekly?	2	1	0
4. Do you have a prayer partner you meet with weekly?	2	1	0
5. Do you practice fasting?	2	1	0
6. Do you practice spiritual warfare praying?	2	1	0
7. Do you go on personal prayer retreats?	2	1	0
8. Do you regularly have extended times of prayer?	2	1	0
9. Do you exercise the authority of the believer and warfare praying?	2	1	0
10. Are you regularly praying the salvation of souls?	2	1	0
11. Do you maintain a personal prayer list?	2	1	0
12. Do you teach others how to pray?	2	1	0
13. Have you ever taken a course or seminar on prayer?	2	1	0
14. Do you regularly read books on intercessory prayer?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Godly Character & Lifestyle

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Do you live with eternity's values in view?	2	1	0
2. Do you live every day as though Christ will come today?	2	1	0
3. Are you ethical in everything you do?	2	1	0
4. Do you have absolute moral standards?	2	1	0
5. Do you live a holy life? Is it above reproach?	2	1	0
6. Is your thought life normally pleasing to Christ?	2	1	0
7. Do you pray carefully about all the decisions you make?	2	1	0
8. Do you know you are in the center of God's will?	2	1	0
9. Are your personal finances in order (God's order)?	2	1	0
10. Does your political affiliation reflect your biblical standards and convictions?	2	1	0
11. Do you publicly speak up about social injustice and immorality?	2	1	0
12. Do others you work with know your absolutes? Do you have any?	2	1	0
13. Is Jesus Christ the center of your life and love?	2	1	0
14. Do you hunger and thirst after God?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Spiritual Disciplines

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Do you have a daily prayer time?	2	1	0
2. Do you personally read the Word daily?	2	1	0
3. Do you tithe regularly?	2	1	0
4. Do you give beyond the tithe?	2	1	0
5. Do you actively thank and praise God out loud?	2	1	0
6. Have you read through Bible?	2	1	0
7. Do you have a close circle for fellowship (cell group, bible study)?	2	1	0
8. Do you keep a daily journal?	2	1	0
9. Do you keep yourself accountable to anyone?	2	1	0
10. Do you serve the Lord in some weekly capacity?	2	1	0
11. Do you look for opportunities to serve the Lord?	2	1	0
12. Are you punctual?	2	1	0
13. Do you set spiritual goals for yourself?	2	1	0
14. Do you faithful attend all the services of your church?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Relational People Skills

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Are you patient under pressure and in affliction?	2	1	0
2. Are you known for grace and tact?	2	1	0
3. Do you forgive easily when people offend you?	2	1	0
4. Are you able to get along with difficult people?	2	1	0
5. Are you free of all resentment over past sins, offenses, or hurts?	2	1	0
6. Do you regularly encourage other people with your words?	2	1	0
7. Are you confident and secure as a person?	2	1	0
8. Are you comfortable meeting strangers?	2	1	0
9. Have you ever made restitution for some wrong?	2	1	0
10. Are you slow to get angry?	2	1	0
11. Do you easily make new friends	2	1	0
12. Do you easily meet new people?	2	1	0
13. Do you enjoy social interaction? Parties, Social gatherings, etc?	2	1	0
14. Do you enjoy conversations with people you hardly know?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Evangelistic Skills

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Are you able to clearly articulate the Gospel message right now?	2	1	0
2. Can you quote 10 Scriptures to support the gospel message?	2	1	0
3. Can you answer objections of those who oppose the gospel?	2	1	0
4. Can you defend creation and your faith before an atheist or agnostic?	2	1	0
5. Do you have specific evangelistic strategies for reaching your friends for Christ?	2	1	0
6. Are you trained to refute and answer cults?	2	1	0
7. Do you every purposely pursue people with the Gospel?	2	1	0
8. Did you bring anyone to Christ this past year?	2	1	0
9. Have you ever brought someone to Christ?	2	1	0
10. Do you maintain a "10 Most Wanted" list for prayer?	2	1	0
11. Do you have a ready answer for those who say the Bible is full of errors?	2	1	0
12. Do you deliberately make friends of unbelievers to win them to Christ?	2	1	0
13. Do you have any unsaved friends with whom you spend time?	2	1	0
14. Have you ever taken a course in Evangelism Explosion?			
Total Your Score			

Family Life

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Are you faithful to your spouse?	2	1	0
2. Do you and your spouse have enjoyable conversations regularly?	2	1	0
3. Do you discipline your children consistently? Biblically?	2	1	0
4. Are you a good at expressing affection and affirming your love?	2	1	0
5. Do you set absolute boundaries in your home?	2	1	0
6. Do you have family devotions with your spouse and/or children?	2	1	0
7. Are your finances pleasing to God?	2	1	0
8. Are your movies and TV shows you watch pleasing to Jesus Christ?	2	1	0
9. Do you know the biblical teaching on divorce and remarriage?	2	1	0
10. Have you recently participated in a marriage enrichment weekend or couples retreat?	2	1	0
11. Do you have a plan or schedule to work on your marriage relationship?	2	1	0
12. Did you go through any pre-marital counseling before getting married?	2	1	0
13. If divorced, have you ever attended a divorce recovery workshop?	2	1	0
14. Does your spouse and/or family recognize you are a godly man (or woman)?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Leadership Skills

Question	Yes	Some	No
1. Are you a disciplined person?	2	1	0
2. Do you get up and go to bed a set hours?	2	1	0
3. Do you organize your time every day?	2	1	0
4. Are you a get-it-done kind of person? (Or are you a procrastinator?)	2	1	0
5. Do you able to make up your mind and made decisions easily?	2	1	0
6. Do you have goals for your life, ministry, job?	2	1	0
7. Do have a plan for your life?	2	1	0
8. Do people often follow you as leader?	2	1	0
9. Do people look up to your for guidance and wisdom?	2	1	0
10. Have you been elected to an office in the church?	2	1	0
11. Have you volunteered for any leadership position in the church?	2	1	0
12. Do you dream and plan for your future?	2	1	0
13. Are you good in moments of crisis?	2	1	0
14. Are you an organized person?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

Psychological Dissatisfactions (notice the answers are reversed for negatively stated questions)

Question	No	Some	Yes
1. Do you get discouraged easily?	2	1	0
2. Do you get angry often?	2	1	0
3. Do you use derogatory expressions like "stupid," "idiot," "jerk," etc?	2	1	0
4. Do you often argue with your spouse or children?	2	1	0
5. Do you ever lose your temper?	2	1	0
6. Do you ever feel like God doesn't love you?	2	1	0
7. Do you ever feel like God doesn't care or doesn't answer your prayers?	2	1	0
8. Are you a critical person? A complainer?	2	1	0
9. Do you ever feel like God failed you?	2	1	0
10. Do you ever swear?	2	1	0
11. Do you ever get angry at God?	2	1	0
12. Is there anyone you are bitter against, angry at, or dislike intensely?	2	1	0
13. Do you ever have thoughts of suicide?	2	1	0
14. Do you ever wish you were dead?	2	1	0
Total Your Score			

SCORING YOURSELF

Each section contains 14 questions. Each question is worth approximately 0.714. Each section has a possible high score of 28. There are 10 sections.

YOUR SCORE SHEET			
Торіс	Score%		
1. Obedience to Christ			
2. Knowledge of the Word			
3. Prayer Life			
4. Godly Character			
5. Spiritual Disciplines			
6. People Skills			
7. Evangelistic Skills			
8. Family Life			
9. Leadership Skills			
10. Emotions Balance			
Grace – unmerited favor			
Grand Total			

SAMPLE SCORE SHEET			
Торіс	Score%		
1. Obedience to Christ	88		
2. Knowledge of the Word	85		
3. Prayer Life	88		
4. Godly Character	88		
5. Spiritual Disciplines	80		
6. People Skills	75		
7. Evangelistic Skills	85		
8. Family Life	68		
9. Leadership Skills	100		
10. Emotions Balance	68		
Grace – unmerited favor	67		
Grand Total	1000		

SAMPLE SCORE SHEET

Add 67 to your score as God's grace and unmerited favor.

Divide the total by 10 to get your average score. = 100%

For your scoring convenience here is how each segment would score on percentages.

Grade yourself by putting Better=10, Same=5, Less=0 in the block that are true for you. We realize that this is not a scientific study and is entirely subjective, but it will serve to give most people a feel for how they are doing as disciples of Christ.

Final Self-Evaluation

Question	Better	Same	Less
1. Are you growing in discipleship more today than you were than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
2. Are you <u>maturing</u> in Christ more than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
3. Are you stronger in faith more than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
4. More <u>disciplined</u> more than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
5. More <u>faithful</u> and <u>faith-filled</u> more than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
6. More <u>dedicated</u> and <u>committed</u> more than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
7. More <u>Christ-centered</u> more than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
8. Is your <u>prayer life</u> better today than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
9. Are you <u>disciplining or mentoring</u> more people today than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
10. Is <u>Jesus really Lord</u> of all areas of your life today more than 2 years ago?	10	5	0
Total Your Score			

Total Score _____

100-90 excellent progress
90-76 is good and healthy, and growing.
75-65 is static, status quo, stagnate growth.
Less is not acceptable discipleship. You are following afar off.

EXAMINE YOUR

BESETTING SINS

"As a man thinks in his heart, so it he." - Proverbs 23:7

"If a man looks on a woman with lustful intent he has commited adultery in his heart already." - Matthew 5:28

"Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sex-sins, thefts, lies, blasphemies." - Matthew 15:19

> "Man looks on the outward appearance, God looks at the heart." - I Samuel 16:7

SPIRITUAL INVENTORY FOR HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

Adapted from Jack Taylor's Preparation for Personal Prayer

Matthew 6:12, 14, 15 "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. For if you forgive men their trespasses,

your heavenly Father will also forgive you: " 1) Is there anyone against whom you hold a grudge? 2) Is there anyone whom you have not forgiven? 3) Is there anyone you hate? 4) Is there anyone whom you do not love? 5) Are there any misunderstandings that you are unwilling to forgive? and forget? 6) Is there any person against whom you are harboring bitterness, resentment or jealousy. 7) Anyone you dislike to hear praised or well spoken of? 8) Do you allow anything to justify a wrong attitude toward another? Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you " 1) Is there anything in which you have failed to put God first? 2) Do you make decisions after your own wisdom, rather than seeking God's will? 3) Does anything interfere with your surrender and service to God: ambition, pleasures, loved ones, friendships, desires for recognition, money, your own plans? Mark 16:15 "And He said unto them, Go you into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 1) Have you failed to seek the lost for Christ? 2) Have you failed to witness consistently with your mouth for the Lord Jesus Christ? 3) Has your life not shown to the lost the Lord Jesus? John 13:35 "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another." 1) Are you secretly pleased over the misfortunes of another? 2) Are you secretly annoyed over the accomplishments or advancements of another? 3) Are you guilty of any contention or strife? 4) Do you quarrel, argue, or engage in heated discussions? 5) Are you a partaker in any divisions, or party spirit? 6) Are there people whom you deliberately slight? Acts 20:35 "It is more blessed to give than to receive." 1) Have you robbed God by withholding His due of time, talents, or money? 2) Have you given less than a tenth (tithe) of your income for God's work? 3) Have you failed to support mission work either in prayer or in offering? I Corinthians 4:2 "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." 1) Are you undependable, punctual, and faithful in the Lord's work with responsibilities? 2) Are you your emotions stirred for things of the Lord but you do nothing about it? 3) Are you doing everything (ministries) God has spoken to your about? I Corinthians 6: 19-20 "What? Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own? For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" 1) Are you in any way careless with your body? 2) Do you fail to care for your body as the temple of the Holy Spirit? 3) Are you guilty of intemperance in eating and drinking?

4) Do you have any habits which are defiling to the body?

Ephesians 3:20 "Now unto Him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

- 1) Are you SELF-CONSCIOUS rather than CHRIST-CONSCIOUS?
- 2) Do feelings of inferiority to keep you from attempting things you should for God?

I Corinthians 10:31 "Whether you eat, or drink, or whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God."

- 1) Do you take the credit for anything good you do, rather than give all the glory to God?
- 2) Do you talk of what you have done rather than what Christ has done?
- 3) Are your statements mostly about "1"?
- 4) Are your feelings easily hurt?
- 5) Have you pretended to be something you are not?

Ephesians 4:28 "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. "

- 1) Do you underpay?
- 2) Do you do very little in your work?
- 3) Have you been careless in the payment of your debts?
- 4) Do you waste time for yourself and for others?

Ephesians 4:31 "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice."

- 1) Do you complain?
- 2) Do you find fault?
- 3) Do you have a critical attitude toward any person or thing?
- 4) Are you irritable or cranky?
- 5) Do you ever carry hidden anger?
- 6) Do you get angry?
- 7) Do you become impatient with others?
- 8) Are you ever harsh or unkind?

Ephesians 5:16 "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. "

- 1) Do you listen to ungodly radio or TV programs?
- 2) Do you read unworthy magazines?
- 3) Do you partake in worldly amusements?
- 4) Do you find it necessary to seek satisfaction from any questionable source?
- 5) Are you doing things that show that you are not satisfied with the Lord Jesus Christ?

Ephesians 5:20 "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. "

- 1) Have you neglected to thank Him for all things, bad & good?
- 2) Have you virtually called God a liar by doubting His word?
- 3) Do you worry? Are you fearful?
- 4) Is your spiritual temperature based on feelings instead of on the facts of God's Word?

Philippians 1:21 "For me to live is Christ [to live all over again], and to die is gain. "

- 1) Are you taken up with the cares of this life?
- 2) Is your conversation or heart joy over "things" rather than the Lord and His Word?
- 3) Does anything mean more to you than living for and pleasing Christ?

Dhilinniana	2.14 "Do all things without murmurings and disputings."
	2:14 "Do all things without murmurings and disputings. "
1)	Do you ever by word or deed seek to hurt someone?
2)	Do you gossip?
3)	Do you speak unkindly concerning people when they are not present?
4)	Do you harbor prejudice because they someone is different than you, or because they do not see everything exactly like you?
	everything exactly like you?
Philippians	4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice
1)	Have you neglected to seek to be pleasing to Him in all things?
2)	Do you carry any bitterness toward God? Are you angry or disappointed with God?
3)	Have you complained against Him in any way? Grumbled because of circumstances?
4)	Have you been dissatisfied with His provision for you?
5)	Do you have any reservations in obeying His perfect will?
6)	Have you disobeyed some direct leading of the Holy Spirit?
Colossians 3	3:9 "Lie not one to another, seeing that you have put off the old man with his deeds."
1)	Do you engage in empty and unprofitable conversation ?
2)	Do you ever lie, fib, deceive or withhold the whole truth of a matter?
3)	Do you ever exaggerate to make yourself look good?
4)	Do you cheat (on taxes, expense reports)?
5)	Do you steal (from your employer, or from God)?
6)	Have you forgotten to return anything you borrowed?
2 Timothy 2	2:22 "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on
	of a pure heart."
1)	Do you have any personal habits that are not pure?
2)	Do you allow impure thoughts about the opposite sex to stay in your mind?
3)	Do you read that which is impure or suggests unholy things?
4)	Do you indulge in any unclean entertainment?
5)	Are you guilty of the lustful look? Lustful thoughts? Lustful fantasies?
Hebrews 10	:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting
	and much more, as you see the day approaching."
1)	Do you deliberately stay away from some church services?
2)	Are you irregular in attendance at services?
3)	Do you neglect to attend & participate in meetings for prayer?
4)	Have you neglected/slighted daily or private prayer?
5)	Have you neglected thanksgiving at meals?
6)	Have you neglected family devotions?
Hohr 14	7 "Demender dem which have de mineraren als bester states at a Walt COL
	:7 "Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the Word of God: follow, considering the end of their conversation."
1)	Do you hesitate to submit to leaders in the church or elsewhere?
2)	Are you lazy in spiritual disciplines?
3)	Do you rebel at requests given to you to help in the work of the gospel?
3) 4)	Do you have a stubborn streak, or an unteachable spirit?
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	"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows
in their afflic	ction and to keep himself unspotted from the world."
1)	Have you allowed yourself to become "spotted" by the world?
2)	Is your manner of dress pleasing to God?
3)	Do you spend beyond what is pleasing to God on anything?
4)	Do you neglect to pray about the things that you buy?
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	But He gives more grace, Wherefore He says, God resists the proud, but gives grace unto the
humble."	
1)	Do you feel that you are not so bad as others?
2)	Are you stubborn?
3)	Do you insist on having your own way?
4)	Do you insist on your own "rights"?
James 3:11	"Does a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?"
1)	Have you dishonored Him and hindered His work by criticizing His servants?
2)	Have you failed to pray regularly for your pastor and other spiritual leaders?
3)	Do you find it hard to be corrected?
4)	Is there rebellion toward one who wants to restore you?
5)	Are concerned about what people will think more than what will be pleasing to God?
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<u>Common Sins and Temptations</u> What are your temptations, or easily besetting sins?

Try to identify at least <u>five areas</u> in which you struggle with temptation. They may not be listed here. Be honest. They are <u>your</u> temptations.

- 1. adultery-emotional 2. adultery-in-mind 3. adultery-physical 4. abuser 5. anger 6. anorexia 7. backbiting backsliding 9. bitterness 10. brawler 11. breach of confidence 12. bulimia 13. callous 14. cheating 15. clamor 16. complaining 17. compulsive 18. condemning 19. covetous 20. critical 21. cry-baby 22. cursing 23. cynical 24. defensive 25. demanding 26. dirty mind 27. disobedient to authorities 28. disobedient to parents 29. doubt 30. drunkenness 31. easily hurt 32. evil joking 33. evil speaking 34. excessive debt 35. faithless 36. falsify 37. fears 38. fortune tellers 39. gamble 40. getting even 41. gluttony 42. grumbling 43. hatred 44. hatred
- 46. hopeless 47. horoscopes 48. hypocrisy 49. idolatry 50. impatient 51. inconsiderate 52. inconsistent 53. indifferent 54. irresponsible 55. jealous 56. judgmental 57. jump-to-conclusions 58. know-it-all 59. laziness 60. lewdness 61. lying 62. lost 1st love 63. lukewarm 64. lust-mind 65. lustful imagination 66. mal-content 67. meddling 68. money addiction 69. murder 70. murmuring 71. necromancy 72. neglect of children 73. neglect of church 74. neglect of family 75. neglect of fellowship 76. neglect of gifts 77. neglect of parents 78. neglect of service 79. neglect of spouse 80. ouija-boards 81. over-spender 82. overeating 83. perfectionist 84. pessimistic 85. pleasure seeker 86. pornography 87. prejudice 88. procrastination 89. promise breaker

90. proud

91. psychic-hotlines 92. quarrelsome 93. quitter 94. resentful 95. respect of persons 96. rudeness 97. sarcastic 98. self-centered 99. self-destruction 100.self-hatred 101.self-indulgent 102.self-pity 103.self-serving 104.severe 105.sex sins 106.slander 107.sharp answers 108.smoking 109.spiteful 110.sports-aholic 111.steal 112. 113.steal tithe 114.stinginess 115.suicidal thoughts 116.superstitions 117. swearing 118. temper 119. touchy 120. un-sympathetic 121. unfairness 122. unkind 123. unloving 124. unreliable 125. unfaithful 126. vengeful 127. vulgar 128. wishing evil 129. witchcraft 130. workaholic 131. worry

45. hoarding things

<u>Seriously Examine Yourself</u> Your Weaknesses, Besetting Sins, and Temptations

We are all tempted. Even Jesus was tempted of the devil. James tells us that we are all tempted when we are drawn away of our own lusts and enticed. Be honest with yourself.

- Where Are Your Weakness? (James 5:16)
- What Are Your Easily Besetting Sins? (Hebrews 12:1)
- What Are Your Re-occurring Temptations? (James 1:2, 1 Peter 1:6)

Read these Scriptures pertaining to sin during your self-examination time.

Rom 1:29-32, 1 Cor. 6:8-10, 1 Cor 10:6-10, Gal 5:19-21, Eph 4:25-31, 2 Tim 3:1-8, Rev. 21:8

Read the following list and <u>check</u> any area of weakness the Lord may point out to you.

Spiritual	Mental	Emotional	Verbal	Physical	Financial	Ego
Idolatry	Doubts	Hatred	Curse	Sexual	Cheating	Pride
Witchcraft	Fears	Jealousy	Swear	Sensual	Workaholic	Self-pity
Fortunes	Worry	Anger	Lie	Drugs	Things	Ambition
Horoscopes	Anxiety	Bitterness	Criticize	Alcohol	Not Tithing	Greed
Ouija Boards	Evil Thoughts	Prejudice	Condemn	Smoking	Stealing	Coveting
Charms	Fantasies	Self-Pity	Gossip	Body worship	Lotto	Prejudice
	Lusts	Discouraged	Slander	Beauty obsession	Gambling	
		Depressed	Blasphemy	Figure obsession	Fraud	
		-		-		

Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so <u>easily</u> beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

How To Deal With Temptation

- <u>Flee</u> Temptation 2 Timothy 2:22
- <u>Resist</u> Temptation James 4:7 & 1 Peter 5:9
- <u>Endure</u> Temptation James 1:12
- <u>Pray to Escape</u> Temptation Luke 22:40

Confess Sin

(Do spiritual inventory, open heart surgery)

<u>W</u>ords - have you spoken evil of anyone, criticized, sharp words <u>A</u>ttitudes - complaining spirit, depressed, grouchy, know-it-all <u>T</u>houghts - evil desires, lusts, doubts, fears, hatred, bitterness <u>A</u>ctions - broken God's laws, trespassed on forbidden ground

Be sure to do spiritual inventory when you come before the throne.

COMMON SINS AND TEMPTATIONS What are your temptations, or easily besetting sins? Hebrews 12:1 Am I? Have I committed? Or am I guilty of?

adultery-emotional	idolatry		resentful
 adultery-in-mind	 impatient		respect of persons
 adultery-physical	 inconsiderate		rude
 abuser	 inconsistent		sarcastic
 anger	 indifferent		self-centered
 anorexia	 irresponsible		self-destruction
 backbiting	 jealous		self-hatred
 backsliding	 judgmental		self-indulgent
 bitterness	 jump-to-conclusions		self-pity
 brawler	 know-it-all		self-serving
 breach of confidence	 lazy		severe
bulimia	lewd		sensual
 callous	 lying		sex sins
cheating	lost 1st love		slander
 clamor	 lukewarm		sharp answers
 complaining	 lustful-mind		smoking
 compulsive	 lustful imagination		spiteful
 condemning	 mal-content		sports-aholic
 covetous	 meddling		stealing
 critical	 money addiction		steal tithe
 cry-baby	 murder		stinginess
 cursing	 murmuring		suicidal thoughts
 cynical	 necromancy		superstitions
 defensive	 neglect of children		swearing
 demanding	 neglect of church		temper
 dirty mind	 neglect of family		touchy
 disobedient to authorities	 neglect of fellowship		un-sympathetic
 disobedient to parents	 neglect of gifts		unfairness
 doubt	 neglect of parents		unkind
 drunken	 neglect of service		unloving
 easily hurt	 neglect of spouse		unreliable
 evil joking	 ouija-boards		unfaithful
 evil speaking	 over-spender		vengeful
 excessive debt	 overeating		vulgar
 faithless	 perfectionist		wishing evil
 falsify	 pessimistic		witchcraft
 fearful	 pleasure seeker		workaholic
 fortune tellers	 pornography		worry
 gamble	 prejudice	0.1	<u>.</u>
 getting even	 procrastination	Othe	er Sins
 gluttony	 promise breaker		
 grumbling	 proud		
 hatred	 psychic-hotlines		
 hoarding things	 quarrelsome		
 hopeless	 quitter		
 horoscopes			
 hypocrisy			

Try to identify at least <u>five areas</u> in which you struggle with temptation. They may not be listed here. Be honest. They are <u>your</u> temptations

CONFESSION - ATTITUDE CHECKLIST

(Check up on your own secret sins)

The Sin	The Scripture	My Particular Sin
Selfish desires	James 4:3	
Secret sins	Psalm 66:18	
Idle words	Matthew 12:36	
Lustful fantasies	Matthew 5:28	
Marriage conflicts	I Peter 3:7b	
Ingratitude	Philippians 4:4-8	
Unforgiving Attitudes	Mark 11:25-26	
Unresolved conflicts	Matthew 5:23	
Doubt	Hebrews 11:6a	
Prayerlessness	Hebrews 11:6b / Jer 2:32	
Indecision & doubt	James 1:6	
Bitterness	Hebrews 12:15	
Rebellion against authority	I Samuel 15:23	
Known disobedience	James 4:17	
Temper	Ephesians 4:26-27	
Anger	Ephesians 4:26, 31	
Impatience with others	Ephesians 4:32	
Murmuring / Complaining	1 Corinthians 10:10	
Lying / Half-truths	Colossians 3:9	
Strife in your heart	James 3:14	
Grumbling	Jude 1:16	
Faithlessness	Luke 12:28	
Forsaking God's House	Hebrews 10:25	
Spiritual Laziness	Ephesians 5:14	
Criticism of Others	Proverbs 25:23	
Self-centeredness	2 Corinthians 5:15	
Unequally Yoked	2 Corinthians 6:14	
Stealing	Romans 2:21	
Cheating	1 Thessalonians 4:6	
Holding Back Tithe	Malachi 3:10	

There are sins that "easily beset us" that serve only to weigh us down and cause us shame and hinder our fellowship with God. (Hebrews 12:1) Each of us has our own set of reoccurring sins. There are no exempt people. "There is none righteous, no not one."

Confession is laying it out before the Lord... for "all things are <u>naked</u> and <u>opened unto the eyes</u> of him with whom we have to do." (Hebrews 4:13)

LOOK INTO THE MIRROR

"If we say we have not sinned, we deceive ourselves..." I John 1:8

My Major Temptations (1 Corinthians 10:13)

(See the list on the next page)

1	6
2	7
3	8
4.	9.
5	10.

<u>My Besetting Sins</u> (Hebrews 12:1)

(Those that easily overtake me and occur over again and again.)

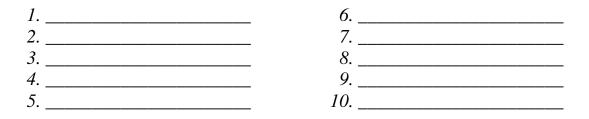
1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

My Failures & Faults

(Confess or admit them one to another – James 5:16.)

1	6
2	7
3.	8
4.	9.
5	10

<u>What God Did With My Sin</u> (memorize these verses so you can apply them). "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousnesss." I John 1:9



Summarize Your Areas of Concern

James 1:23. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24. and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it--he will be blessed in what he does. 26. If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. 27. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Have I done wrong, or failed to do right?

1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Have I entertained evil thoughts in my mind?

Have I spoken evil of another person?

1.	
2.	
3.	

Do I need to make something right?

I	
2.	
3.	

Lord, change my prayer life in these areas:



Faith

The blind men came to him: and Jesus said unto them, <u>Believe</u> you that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. - Matthew 9:28

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must <u>believe</u> that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. - Hebrews 11:6

Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye <u>have faith</u>, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this *which is done* to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. - Matthew 21:21

And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of <u>little faith</u>, wherefore didst thou doubt? - Matthew 14:31

What Are You Believing God to Do?

Don't pretend you have faith when you really don't believe it is going to happen. That is praying a lie. Exercise real faith in God's goodness and promises. This kind of praying takes more time. One must come boldly to the throne of grace, but carefully and sincerely.

Be specific in the request that you long for, believe God wants, and are willing to persist for.

In your life and family

1		
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	In your church.	
1		
3.		

In the lives of others.

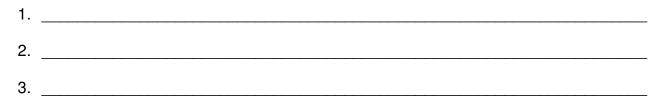
1.	
2.	
3.	

Take some time to consider your "faith requests." Be sure they are from the heart, not from the top of your head. You must long for them, believe for them, and plead for them. You must be willing to prevail for them, agonize over them, then search and claim God's promises for them. Are you praying according to the will of God? Are you praying for God's purpose, God's kingdom or your own?

What Are The Promise You Claim Daily?

Promises are not vain things that just sit quietly in the Scriptures to look pretty. Many people read and appreciate the promises of God when they encounter them in their Bible reading, but they never appropriate them for their lives. Promises are to be embraced, believed, and claimed before the throne of God. They are God's inheritance to you. Take them, memorize them, believe them, claim them, cash them in.

For your Family



For your Finances

1.	
2.	
3.	

For Your Health

1.	
2.	
3.	

In Your Ministry - To Be Used of God

