

## ASKING GOD TO EXAMINE OUR HEARTS

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way (Psalm 139:23-24 NASB).

- 1 As we pray for revival and spiritual awakening, ask God to begin this great work by searching through our own hearts, revealing to us any anxious thoughts or hurtful ways from which we need to repent (Psalm 139:23-24).
- 2 Since God's ways are always higher than man's ways, ask God to reveal to us through His Word how we have departed from Him (Isaiah 55:8-9). Then ask Him to empower us to change our thoughts and deeds as we purpose to align them with His.
- 3 Since Jesus instructed His followers in Matthew 6:12-14 to seek God's forgiveness on the same basis as they had forgiven those who sinned against them, pray that we will be faithful in forgiving everyone who accidentally or intentionally sins against us.
- 4 Knowing that it is easy for us to make selfish decisions as we pursue the basic needs of our lives, ask God to help us always seek His kingdom and His righteousness first as we purpose to serve Him and live out our lives for His glory (Matthew 6:33).
- 5 As we think about whether or not we have been the witnesses God has called us to be regarding the gospel of Jesus, ask God to empower us daily with boldness in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others (Acts 1:8).
- 6 Knowing that God is love, and that the one who does not love does not have a relationship with God (1 John 4:8), pray that each member of your church family will grow in his or her relationship with Christ and in turn will love each other more.
- 7 Pray that those within your church family who have struggled with contention or strife will realize just how much this hurts or nullifies their witness as believers in your community (John 13:35).
- 8 When Paul was in Ephesus, he shared how Jesus had said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Pray that when looking at the poor within your community, your church family will heed and practice the actions behind these powerful words.
- 9 Lest we find ourselves being undependable stewards of the things of Christ, pray that we will become more trustworthy in handling the spiritual, material, and relational treasures He entrusts to us (1 Corinthians 4:1-2).
- 10 If we are not caring for our bodies as living temples of the Holy Spirit, pray that we will lay down every immoral or physically destructive practice that fails to honor the Christ who lives within us (1 Corinthians 6:18-19).
- 11 If we as individuals or as a church family are taking the slightest credit for the good things happening in our lives, pray that we will lay down our pride and turn to do all things for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31).
- 12 When we are allowing self-conscious feelings of inferiority to keep us from obeying the commands of Christ, pray that we will submit to the One "who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us" (Ephesians 3:20).
- 13 Should we find ourselves being less diligent than we ought to be when at work, or negligent in paying our bills, pray that we will return to the practice of fruitful labor and the mindset of saving money in order to be able to share with those in need (Ephesians 4:28).
- 14 If we are plagued with attitudes of bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander, or malice, pray that we will repent of these sinful ways and purpose by God's grace to be kind to each other, tender-hearted, and forgiving (Ephesians 4:31-32).

- 15** Since we often find ourselves walking as unwise individuals, pray that God will give us the kind of wisdom that comes from above. Ask God to guide us in making the most of our time in a culture filled with evil allurements and time-wasting distractions (Ephesians 5:15-16).
- 16** In our fast-paced world, where it is so easy to ignore God or the people who are ministering to us, pray that we will learn to pause and verbally give thanks, especially to our loving, caring Father (Ephesians 5:20). For today, let's pause and thank Him for the resurrected Christ!
- 17** With so many in our culture seemingly living for the sole purpose of accumulating material things, pray that every believer you know will focus the devotion of their heart on living to enhance their relationship with Christ (Philippians 1:21).
- 18** Wanting to be children of God who are above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, pray that we will prove ourselves to be blameless and innocent in all things (Philippians 2:15).
- 19** For those in the church who have allowed bitterness toward God or dissatisfaction over His provision to ensnare their hearts, pray that they will repent of their self-centered focus and learn to continuously rejoice in the Lord, trusting Him with their lives and circumstances (Philippians 4:4).
- 20** Since we have laid aside the old self with its evil practices and are being renewed to think and act like Jesus, pray that we will no longer lie to one another (Colossians 3:9-10).
- 21** Since we are exhorted in the Word to pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart, pray that we will flee from youthful lusts and those who like to engage in ignorant speculations and start quarrels (2 Timothy 2:22-23).
- 22** For those who get bored listening to the preaching of God's Word or who are irregular in corporate worship, pray that their hearts will see Christianity as a love relationship with God. Also pray that they will be so enthralled by Him that they start encouraging others to join them in worship (Hebrews 10:25).
- 23** For those who rebelliously and inappropriately try to undermine the spiritual authority and leadership of their church's pastors, elders, and staff, pray that great conviction will fall on their souls, moving them to repent and submit to those appointed by God to "keep watch over their souls" (Hebrews 13:17).
- 24** Since the world system around us often stains us with the kind of worldly attitudes and actions that do not reflect the character and ways of Christ, pray that we will return to a pure and undefiled walk in the sight of God (James 1:27).
- 25** For those who proudly claim for themselves rights and privileges that are not biblical, pray that they will humble themselves before God and others in order to avert God's opposition to their stubborn hearts (James 4:6).
- 26** For those who have dishonored God and hindered His work by criticizing His servants, pray that they will repent and concentrate on their own obedience to the Word of God and His commands (James 4:11).
- 27** Having tendencies to arrogantly boast in our accomplishments, pray that we will recognize and turn away from the kind of self-centered and self-exalting boasting that is evil (James 4:16).
- 28** As obedient children who are called to a life of holiness, pray that we will no longer be conformed to the former lusts that were ours in our ignorance, but will become holy in all of our behavior, even as Christ walked in holiness (1 Peter 1:14-16).
- 29** Please pray that we will put aside our longings for the temporal things of this world and will instead long for the pure milk of the Word of God, spending time in it daily in order to see our relationships with Him mature (1 Peter 2:1-2).
- 30** Knowing it is sometimes difficult to discern our own shortcomings, ask God to continually protect us from hidden and presumptuous sins. Ask Him to so work within us that the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts are always acceptable to Him (Psalm 19:12-14).