

A Guide to Revival

2Chronicles 7:14 – *“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”*

Joel 2:12-13 – *“Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.”*

James 5:16 – *“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”*

1) Matthew 5:44 - *“But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;”*

The love that is spoken of here is a deliberate choice to seek the well-being of others without expecting anything in return. It describes God's unconditional love to us when we were His enemies. It is demonstrated through sacrifice, such as Jesus serving others and giving His life to save the enemy. It challenges individuals to care for others, including difficult people or enemies. Remember Christ died on the cross for Saul of Tarsus who was murdering His children and then Christ hunted him down on the road to Damascus and saved his unworthy soul. That is the kind of love God is telling us to express to others.

Ask God to show you if there are people in your life that you hate. Ask him if there are people that you cannot stand the thought of having to be around. Ask God if there are people that you cannot imagine yourself looking at and saying, I love you.

Now make a list of every person God brought to your mind.

Now in your own words pray to God regarding these individuals. Here is a sample of what that prayer might look like:

Lord, these individuals have hurt me in many ways and I have bitterness in my soul regarding them. God, I want to be set free from that bitterness of an unforgiving and unloving heart. Lord, I have been trying to stand in your place as the judge of these individuals and I repent of that. Lord, I acknowledge that as Ecclesiastes 3:17 declares, you shall judge the righteous and the wicked. I acknowledge that vengeance is yours and not mine and that you shall repay as you see fit according to Romans 12:19. I thank you God for choosing in your mercy and grace to forgive me of all the debts that I owed you and I ask that you forgive me for being unwilling to forgive others. I now forgive each one of these individuals and I leave their debts with you as Joseph did his brothers in Genesis 50:19-21. Lord, I choose to love them, to seek their good and well-being expecting nothing in return. Thank you, God, for setting me free from this bondage of the devil and I reclaim every piece of my life that I have allowed the enemy to claim through my unforgiveness. I take it back in Jesus' name and ask the Holy Spirit to fill that space so that nothing else can claim it. In the name of Jesus, I pray these things by the power of His shed blood and resurrection, Amen!

2) 1Peter 2:13-14 - *“Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.”*

1Timothy 2:1-2 *“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in*

authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.”

Pray and ask God to convict you and show you the ways in which you have bitter, unloving and perhaps hateful feelings towards rulers and authorities around the world. Confess those feelings to God in prayer admitting to Him that those feelings are sin. Then, pray that God will be with all of the leaders and those in authority, bringing salvation to those of them that are lost and that God would work in the hearts of each leader using them to His glory and honor and causing them to lead in such away as to bring godly peace to the world around us. Ask God to convict you and reveal to you all the rules and laws of man that you break just because you do not agree with them. Confess those things before God acknowledging that they are sin and seek to be obedient to the laws and rules of this world so long as they do not contradict the Word of God (Acts 5:29).

3) Galatians 5:19-21 - *“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”*

Pray and ask God to reveal to you everything that you watch, listen to or read including movies, television shows, reading materials, etc. that involve promoting any of these sins or any other sins and ask God to forgive you of it and then forsake it and strive not to repeat it. In your prayer reclaim every piece of ground that the enemy has gained in your life through those things and surrender that ground to God asking Him to fill it with His Holy Spirit.

4) Galatians 5:22-23 - *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”*

Philippians 4:8 - *“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”*

Pray and ask God to reveal to you every source of negative input in your life. Confess those things to Him identifying them as negatives and commit yourself to forsaking them. Ask God to help you replace those negative sources of input with positive sources of input that promote the things listed in Galatians 5:22-23 and Philippians 4:8.

5) Proverbs 16:18 - *“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”*

1John 2:16 - *“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”*

Pray and ask God to reveal all your pride to you and confess that pride to Him asking Him to assist you in walking in humility.

6) Ephesians 4:29-32 - *“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.”*

Titus 3:2-4 - *“To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,”*

Pray and ask God to reveal to you the ways in which you have spoken evil of others even if that evil was true and ask Him to show you all of the other ways that you use your tongue in ways that you should not to spread news that you should not be spreading or sharing with others how wrong you have been done, etc. Confess those things to God as He reveals them to you and ask Him to forgive you of those things and ask Him to help you guard your tongue that it would only be used to edify and promote peace, truth, love, etc.

7) Acts 10:34-35 - *“Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.”*

James 2:9 - *“But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.”*

Pray and ask God to reveal to you all the ways that you are or have been prejudice and then confess those things before God asking Him to forgive you and asking Him to strengthen you to see the human race as He does and to treat everyone accordingly.

8) 2Timothy 2:1-4 - *“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”*

Pray and ask God to reveal to you all the ways in which you get tangled up in the affairs of this world that sidetrack you from the true business of spreading the gospel and the Lord Jesus Christ to others. Confess those things before God and ask Him to help you focus on our true purpose here upon earth.

*Many times, we get sidetracked and focused on politics and political parties which the devil uses to divide us and to keep many people out of church. Our business is to spread the truth of God’s Word and to equip people with the Word of God then it is the Holy Spirit’s job to use that information to convict people about how to make proper decisions in this life such as which political party to support and who to vote for, etc. I know people that refuse to enter the doors of some of the Lord’s churches because they do not want to hear about politics even in people’s idle chatter before and after church services begin. There are people who have missed out upon hearing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and other precious truths because they have been offended by political conversation.

9) Exodus 20:7 - *“Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.”*

Ps 111:9 - *“He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name.”*

Pray and ask God to reveal to you if you have been using His name in vain which means emptiness or using His name irreverently. We do that by saying things like, “O My God, Lordy, Jesus Christ, etc.” Confess those things to Him that He brings to your mind and ask Him to forgive you.

10) Ephesians 3:19-21 - *“And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”*

Now pray and ask God to reveal any other sin to you that you need to confess and then confess those sins asking for God’s forgiveness. Pray and in Jesus’ name reclaim all the ground that the enemy has gained in your life and then offer that ground to God asking Him to fill it with His fulness and with His Holy Spirit!