

“Calling Upon Jesus in Our Urgent Need!”

Week 10 - 100 Days of Prayer

May 29 - June 4, 2020

“The Beauty in Brokenness”

By Melody Mason

I will never forget, a number of years ago, as I was preparing to lead a prayer service for a large event, how the Holy Spirit convicted me of something specific in my life that I needed to make right with God. Overwhelmed, I sank to my knees on the floor that night as I prayed, “Oh Lord, please forgive me...”

However, while I confessed my sin to God, certain steps were necessary to make proper amends. But I couldn't take these steps immediately, so I wasn't sure what to do. Should I still go forward with my prayer ministry responsibilities or should I get someone else to fill in for me until I had made things right?

As a respected leader in ministry, it was very humiliating to think of admitting to others that I had failed God in a specific area. I didn't want to make a stir and appear spiritually weak to my teammates, or to the many strangers that were in attendance at the meetings. So, with a heavy heart and tears in my eyes, I went to sleep that night, determined that I would just ask someone else to lead the prayer service the next day.

However, the next morning as I set out to find someone to take my place, God stopped me in my tracks as the Holy Spirit began speaking to my heart. “Melody, you need to lead the prayer service this morning. Don't get someone to replace you!”
“Wait God...You can't mean this?” I said as fresh tears came to my eyes. But the Holy Spirit continued to speak to my heart.

“Yes, I want you to lead, however, you are not to lead it as *the person you want everyone to think you are*. Don't you see? I'm not looking for people to lead who cover up their sins and go on as if everything is okay. I'm looking for *yielded broken vessels*; vessels that will humble themselves to such a degree that pride is gone. Only then can I really use them for My glory. I know this hurts, but you need to share with the congregation what I convicted you of last night. Be honest about how you've failed Me! Then invite them to come *with you* to the cross to put away all sin and compromise. You see, if people wait to come until they have everything in order, they will never come.”

Again, I began to protest. “I can't do this, Lord! What will everyone think when they see how I've failed You?”

The Holy Spirit spoke softly to my heart as He turned my eyes toward heaven. “It doesn't matter what they think. This is not about protecting your reputation. This is about bringing glory to God. But, if He is to work, you must humble yourself.”

Oh, how I did *not* want to obey the Holy Spirit's promptings that morning. If I could have run away like Jonah, or crawled in a cave, I would have done so immediately. But I knew what I must do. I had to obey.

Shaking and with tears in my eyes, I went before hundreds of people that morning and shared what the Lord had laid on my heart. You could have heard a pin drop in the room as everyone listened. "Jesus tells us to come as we are," I said softly, as I continued to wipe tears away from my eyes. "So, I'm coming as I am and I'm inviting you to join me at the foot of the cross."

At this invitation everyone got out of their chairs and came forward to the front of the room. There was soft weeping here and there as different people asked God's forgiveness for those areas of sin and compromise that had crept into their lives. And the Holy Spirit was *there*. In the book *Steps to Christ* we are told:

"If you see your sinfulness, do not wait to make yourself better. How many there are who think they are not good enough to come to Christ. Do you expect to become better through your own efforts? 'Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.' *Jeremiah 13:23*. There is help for us only in God. We must not wait for stronger persuasions, for better opportunities, or for holier tempers. We can do nothing of ourselves. We must come to Christ just as we are." (*Steps to Christ*, p. 31)

In hindsight, I think this was one of the most sweet, sacred prayer services I've ever experienced, for God did a deep work of cleansing among all of us that morning. Many hearts were broken, but how beautiful and healing the brokenness was. In Psalm 51:17 the Bible tells us, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart—These, O God, You will not despise."

What offering are you seeking to bring to God these days? Is it your best works, your best prayers, your best attempts to be a strong witness even in the midst of life-shattering events? Our best offering has nothing to do with our works, but is the complete brokenness of self, of pride and all self-sufficiency as we come to the foot of the cross. As the famous hymn *Rock of Ages* says so beautifully, "Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling." Let's cling to that cross today!

Melody Mason is coordinator for the *United in Prayer* program for the General Conference. She also assists with resource development for the Revival and Reformation website and initiatives and is the author of [*Daring to Ask for More: Divine Keys to Answered Prayer*](#). The story in this week's devotional has been taken from her brand-new book just released in April titled, [*Daring to Live by Every Word: Loving God with Heart, Body, Mind and Soul*](#).

HEART QUESTIONS: Where does God dwell (see Isaiah 57:15) and what are the results of godly sorrow (see 2 Corinthians 7:9-11)? What did David ask for in his prayer of repentance (see Psalm 51:1-19)? Contrast that with how Saul responded when reprimanded for his sins (1 Samuel 15:1-30). Which biblical character do you most identify with when you are shown your sins—the one who seeks to justify himself and to maintain honor with the people, or the one who openly acknowledges his sin with a broken heart of genuine repentance?

ACTIVE HEART CHALLENGE: Prayerfully read through the "[Beauty of Humility](#)" as you go through this coming week. It's not something we should evaluate just at the beginning of our spiritual journey, but all along the way. As you go through this heart challenge, ask God if there's any *pride* in your life that you have yet to surrender, or anyone in your sphere of influence (family, friends, work colleagues) of whom you need to ask forgiveness. Then *obey* the Holy Spirit's leading. (Psalm 66:18, Matthew 5:23-24, Proverbs 28:13, Matthew 6:14-15)

"... however trifling this or that wrong act may seem in the eyes of men, no sin is small in the sight of God. Man's judgment is partial, imperfect; but God estimates all things as they really are. The drunkard is despised and is told that his sin will exclude him from heaven; while pride, selfishness, and covetousness too often go unrebuked. But these are sins that are especially offensive to God; for they are contrary to the benevolence of His character, to that unselfish love which is the very atmosphere of the unfallen universe. He who falls into some of the grosser sins may feel a sense of his shame and poverty and his need of the grace of Christ; but pride feels no need, and so it closes the heart against Christ and the infinite blessings He came to give." (*Steps to Christ*, p. 30)

Going Deeper - Additional Reading Suggestions for this week:

- [The Beauty of Humility](#) - (Attached to this week's reading)
- [Melody Mason, Daring to Live by Every Word: Loving God with Heart, Body, Mind and Soul.](#)



Day 64 – Prayer Focus – Friday, May 29, 2020

PRAISE REPORTS:

- Marlynn W.: "We praise the Lord that during the 100 Days of Prayer for the pandemic God has secured us with jobs, food, and shelter. The Lord has also convicted us to move out to the countryside. Additionally, He has given me an opportunity to witness to the Muslim community."
- Moses M.: "Thank you to for praying for us. The Lord has heard your prayers! It is amazing! During the national lockdown period in Namibia, about 1100 people have enrolled in studying Bible lessons, 70% of which are not Seventh-day Adventists."

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Pray** for students around the world who are unable to work due to the lockdowns. Pray that God will provide them with the financial means to pay for tuition.
- **Pray** for victims of domestic violence around the world.
- **Pray** for the family of Alexander Ostankin, a pastor who was murdered as he was ministering. Pray that God will turn the blood of this martyr into the seed of the gospel.
- **Pray** for those who are currently struggling with Covid-19. Pray for their full recovery.



Day 65 – Prayer Focus - Sabbath, May 30, 2020

God's Peace Corps

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." – Matthew 5:9

"Christ is 'the Prince of Peace' (Isaiah 9:6), and it is His mission to restore to earth and heaven the peace that sin has broken. 'Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.' Romans 5:1. Whoever consents to renounce sin and open his heart to the love of Christ, becomes a partaker of this heavenly peace."

– Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, p. 27

HEART QUESTIONS:

Salvation in Jesus gives us perfect peace. But Jesus is not calling us to only experience peace with God through a surrender of your life to Him. No, He also calls you to become an agent of peace – a *peacemaker*. In this time of crisis, will you choose to be such an agent of peace? Will you do all you can to shine the peace of God – His presence of love – into the lives of those around you who live in anxiety and fear?

If you have been the cause of strife and disputes in your family or church, will you seek forgiveness and spread God's peace?

PRAISE REPORTS:

- Julius S.: "Because of the pandemic the Adventist Church in Sierra Leone is airing its services on national TV!"
- Cedrick B.: "I was praying for personal revival. God answered my prayer with the 100 Days of Prayer."

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Pray** for the ministry of Colombia Adventist University as they provide business opportunities to migrant families from Venezuela. Pray that many more families might be helped, both there and in other locations.
- **Pray** for the radio outreach which began in Tokyo in 2017. Ask God to continue to open doors for Adventist radio broadcasts to continue reaching the people of Tokyo.
- **Pray** for the "Mission to the Cities: Spokane" initiative, seeking to add urban centers of influence and more approaches to urban ministry to serve the people of Spokane, WA, USA.
- **Pray** for the Rwenzori region in Uganda, which has been hit by floods multiple times in the last few weeks.



Day 66 – Prayer Focus - Sunday, May 31, 2020

The Privilege of Persecution

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." – Matthew 5:10

“Jesus does not present to His followers the hope of attaining earthly glory and riches, and of having a life free from trial, but He presents to them the privilege of walking with their Master in the paths of self-denial and reproach, because the world knows them not.”

– Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, p. 29

HEART QUESTIONS:

When selfless-love, righteousness, holiness, and truth is being revealed by faithful Christians, Satan will arouse resistance and hatred amongst those who choose to ignore the Holy Spirit’s voice. We can have the assurance that in all persecution we might face, Jesus will be with us and will be glorifying Himself through our challenging experience.

Have you experienced persecution because of your faithfulness to Jesus? Why, or why not? Will you choose today to cast off any desire to please the world, and prayerfully focus on revealing God’s glory, even if that might result in persecution?

PRAISE REPORTS:

- Many churches are becoming creative in conducting their Sabbath services while physical distancing.
- The pandemic has brought the importance of our health message to the forefront of members around the world. The interest in preventative health work, NEWSTART, etc. is growing. Now is a wonderful time to lead people to a comprehensive understanding of God’s laws of health and wholeness.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Pray** for the ministry of Norway’s oldest Adventist church, now adding a center of influence to provide free Norwegian classes for migrants, a cooking school, a conversation café, and more.
- **Pray** for the ministry of two new mobile health vans in Chiapas, Mexico. Pray for the patients they transport and the weekend medical brigades they support, making possible free medical checkups, minor surgeries, dental procedures, ultrasounds checks, eye exams and more.
- **Pray** for a revival of true godliness and a renewed interest in evangelism in each member and church around the world.
- **Pray** for the church in Burundi. It is going through various struggles and issues at this time. Only God’s intervention can bring peace.



Day 67 – Prayer Focus - Monday, June 1, 2020

Reviled for The Truth

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” – Matthew 5:11-12

“In every age God’s chosen messengers have been reviled and persecuted, yet through their affliction the knowledge of God has been spread abroad. Every disciple of Christ is to step into the ranks and carry forward the same work, knowing that its foes can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. God means that truth shall be brought to the front and become the

subject of examination and discussion, even through the contempt placed upon it. The minds of the people must be agitated; every controversy, every reproach, every effort to restrict liberty of conscience, is God's means of awakening minds that otherwise might slumber."

– Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, p. 33

HEART QUESTIONS:

When persecution comes, when your reputation is being slandered, when your life could be in danger, then Jesus' love and truth will shine the brightest. How you react, what you say, what you do when faced with these pressures, will greatly determine the impact your faithfulness can have on those who seek to ruin your life.

Why not ask Jesus to help you to be faithful and loving today and everyday so that you are able to show that same love even under persecution?

Will you pray to Him even now and ask Him to make you a true Christian who will stand for Jesus though the heaven's fall?

PRAISE REPORT:

- Pastors, church workers, teachers, and evangelistic initiatives around the world are struggling financially due to the decrease in tithes and offerings. But they are putting their trust in the God of miracles. God is opening many doors for even greater ministry to people with less resources than before.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Pray** for the Warwick Seventh-day Adventist Church's mobile soup kitchen in Sydney, Australia, which serves up soup and is connecting with lonely people in their area. Please ask God to help them build connections in the community.
- **Pray** for the new medical school for East Africa in Kigali, Rwanda. Pray for the students who graduate from it, and the people they serve.
- **Pray** for the rebuilding of the South Philippine Adventist College church which was destroyed in an earthquake in December 2019.
- **Pray** for a center of influence in the midst of a Muslim community in an unnamed city. Some of the Muslims have requested prayer for them during this Covid-19 crisis. They believe that Adventist's prayers are heard by God.



Day 68 – Prayer Focus - Tuesday, June 2, 2020

The Flavor of Jesus

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet."

– Matthew 5:13

"... when God calls His children salt, He would teach them that His purpose in making them the subjects of His grace is that they may become agents in saving others ... Salt must be mingled with the substance to which it is added; it must penetrate and infuse in order to preserve. So it is through personal contact and association that men are reached by the saving power of the gospel. They are not saved in masses, but as individuals. Personal influence is a power. We must come close to those whom we desire to benefit. The savor of

the salt represents the vital power of the Christian—the love of Jesus in the heart, the righteousness of Christ pervading the life. The love of Christ is diffusive and aggressive. If it is dwelling in us, it will flow out to others.” – Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, pp. 35-36

HEART QUESTIONS:

The work of sharing Christ is every believer’s responsibility. Using your personal influence to point to Jesus, to share about what He has done for you, and how He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, this is every Christian’s life calling.

Do you have non-believing friends or co-workers in your life? Or have you locked yourself into an “Adventist bubble”? Is there at least one non-Christian person in your life who is getting a taste of Jesus by spending time with you? Ask Jesus today to make you His delicious salt of the earth!

PRAISE REPORT:

- Early results from a coronavirus vaccine trial show that participants developed antibodies against the virus. Praise God for this major step towards a cure through our immune system’s ability to create antibodies.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Pray** for the ministry of an Adventist-run center for refugees and migrants in Manaus, Brazil. They are caring for Venezuelans living as migrants in Brazil. Ask God to bless and replicate their creative ways of reaching out.
- **Pray** for God to bring the right guests to the health-food store and café called “Lentil” in Yoshkar-Ola, Russia. Ask Him to bless their free cooking classes and other ways of reaching out.
- **Pray** for members and students of the Adventist church and school in Guinobatan, Philippines. The church school was severely damaged by a recent typhoon. Pray for all who are affected by various natural catastrophes around the world.
- **Pray** for the Shalem Lifestyle Center in Bogor, West Java. It has had very few guests since the Covid-19 outbreak and is struggling financially. Pray for them as they are conducting an online detox program using Zoom, so that many souls can be reached in this time of crisis.



Day 69 – Prayer Focus - Wednesday, June 3, 2020

Shine His Light

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” – Matthew 5:14-16

“Humanity has in itself no light. Apart from Christ we are like an unkindled taper, . . . But when we turn toward the Sun of Righteousness, when we come in touch with Christ, the whole soul is aglow with the brightness of the divine presence. Christ’s followers are to be more than a light in the midst of men. They are the light of the world . . . Angels of glory wait to communicate through you heaven’s light and power to souls that are ready to perish.”

HEART QUESTIONS:

Did you read the quote above? Do you realize that angels are *waiting* to work through you to reach lost people? Isn't this amazing?

You are invited to not only be filled with the Holy Spirit for your personal sanctification, but to actively participate in shining the truth, love, and righteousness of Jesus to a world whose time is running out.

Think about your family, your friends, your neighbors, your co-workers. Ask God to show you who needs the light of Jesus in their life? Who should you pray for and contact this week?

PRAISE REPORTS:

- Many countries around the world are beginning to carefully lift their lockdowns.
- The World Health Organization is saying: "If this virus is teaching us anything, it's humility." People are recognizing how frail they are. This is a great opportunity for the church to show seekers the hope we have in Jesus!

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Pray** for God's blessing on members who are operating taxis in Panama City, using them as mobile centers of influence. Half of Panama's citizens live in Panama City.
- **Pray** for the urban center of influence in Battambang, Cambodia. It includes a gym, a vegetarian restaurant, a playground, a chapel, health education, music education, and a language school. Pray for God's blessing on this multi-faceted approach, and ask Him to grow the ministry and bring the people whose hearts He has been preparing.
- **Pray** for the upcoming Adventist Women Ministries small group evangelism in the Western Nigeria Union.
- **Pray** for the ministry of a new Adventist addictions recovery center in Orlando, Florida, USA, which is helping to fight the opioid epidemic. Pray also for millions longing for freedom from addiction.



Day 70 - Prayer Focus - Thursday, June 4, 2020

The Law of Love

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished." - Matthew 5:17-18

"The divine beauty of the character of Christ, of whom the noblest and most gentle among men are but a faint reflection; . . . Jesus, the express image of the Father's person, the effulgence of His glory; the self-denying Redeemer, throughout His pilgrimage of love on earth, was a living representation of the character of the law of God. In His life it is made manifest that heaven-born love, Christlike principles, underlie the laws of eternal rectitude."

HEART QUESTIONS:

The law of God is the law of love. Jesus revealed what keeping the law truly looks like. You can keep the law only by completely relying on the Holy Spirit for help. As you believe that He is going to help you to live a life of selfless love and as you by faith do actions of love, His divine power will enable you and work in you to will and do of His good pleasure.

If you are struggling with faithfulness to God's law, will you ask Jesus today to forgive you, and fill you with His Holy Spirit? Will you ask Him to help you not just to keep the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law, which is selfless, sacrificial love to God and all people?

PRAISE REPORTS:

- Marietta A.: "Thank you for your prayers! My son has recovered from Covid-19 and is back to normal and healthy. Praise God!"
- The mortality rate of the Covid-19 pandemic in Spain has decreased significantly from 11% to now just 2%.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Pray** for the urban center of influence in Guatemala City which offers food, toothbrushes, showers, and a place to wash clothes for those who are living on the streets. Please ask God to meet the deepest needs of the visitors to this center, and to help them find hope for eternity.
- **Pray** for the media, committed to providing up-to-date information concerning Covid-19. Pray that God will help them to communicate with appropriate seriousness.
- **Pray** for those who are struggling with anxiety, depression, and fear during this time of crisis. Pray that they will find help, courage, hope, and healing in Jesus.
- **Pray** for pastors, teachers, missionaries, and members in Laos. In some regions it is very hard to use technology to reach people to minister to during this pandemic and in-person visits are at times necessary to help individuals struggling with various issues.

Going Deeper Reading Material

The Beauty of Humility "Heart Challenge"

"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up." James 4:10

The following may be hard to digest all in one reading. I encourage you to take your time (maybe even a few days or more) as you pray and reflect on the truths of God's Word in the following comparisons. And don't despair as you realize all the ways you fall short. We all fall short, so we are in this together. But the good news is that God promises that He can change our heart. (1 John 1:9-10, Ezekiel 36:26)

We are told, "There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church . . . The latter rain will come, and the blessing of God will fill every soul that is purified from every defilement. It is our work today to yield our souls to Christ, that we may be fitted for the time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord—fitted for the baptism of the Holy Spirit." (*Last Day Events*, pp. 192-193)

The Bible tells us to search our heart (Psalm 139:23-24). But we search our heart, not so we can dwell on our weaknesses, but so we can recognize our great need and flee to Jesus. So although you may be shocked by some of the things you discover about yourself, don't wallow in your weak points and worry about whether or not you can be saved. Salvation is promised to all who confess their sins and seek Jesus. Don't ever forget that! With this in mind, let's go. Here is the no-sugar-added straight to the point contrast between pride and humility.

The Beauty of Humility ~ Contrast between Pride & Humility

- Proud self-filled people see all the good they do and feel worthy of salvation.
- **Humble selfless people know that only through Christ's righteousness can they gain salvation.**

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit." – Titus 3:5

- Proud self-filled people feel confident and proud of how much they know.
- **Humble selfless people feel humbled by how much they have yet to learn.**

"Then King David went in and sat before the LORD; and he said: 'Who am I, O Lord GOD? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far?'" – 2 Samuel 7:18

- Proud self-filled people thank God that they aren't like the world around them.
- **Humble selfless people realize that "pride" itself is as deadly as the sins of the world.**

"Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished." – Proverbs 16:5

- Proud self-filled people carry grudges because they have difficulty saying, "I was wrong. Will you forgive me?"
- **Humble selfless people are quick to say, "I'm sorry, let's work this out."**

"Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." – Matthew 5:23,24

- Proud self-filled people tend to focus on the failures and weaknesses of others, and are unmoved by others brokenness.
- **Humble selfless people feel deeply their own weaknesses and great spiritual need, and are sensitive to those who are broken.**

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." – 1 Timothy 1:15

- Proud self-filled people have to prove they are right and save face even when they are wrong.

- **Humble selfless people are willing to yield the “right to be right” in situations even when they are right, as they are more worried about being righteous before God than being right before men.**

“For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.” – 1 Peter 3:17

- Proud self-filled people are selfishly protective of personal space, time, and their reputation.
- **Humble selfless people have a generous giving spirit and are willing to be inconvenienced, allowing God to protect their space, time, and reputation.**

“Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” – Luke 6:38

- Proud self-filled people are too busy to notice or reach out to the “small people” in their lives, those who can’t benefit them in some way.
- **Humble selfless people are always seeking to serve and minister to even the “least of these” as unto Jesus.**

“And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ ” – Matthew 25:40

- Proud self-filled people desire to be recognized and applauded, and they covet promotions, trophies and awards.
- **Humble selfless people desire to be faithful that God’s glory may be seen, and they shy away from recognition or applause.**

“Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth.” – Ps. 115:1

- Proud self-filled people are quick to flaunt their titles and great achievements and feel entitled to special treatment.
- **Humble selfless people don’t need to speak of their titles or achievements, and they are content to go unnoticed as long as God gets the glory.**

“Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man?” – Proverbs 20:6

- Proud self-filled people use their life and any influence they’ve received as a stage to showcase themselves.
- **Humble selfless people use the stage and influence God has given to seek to exalt Christ and make sure only He is seen.**

“He must increase, but I must decrease.” – John 3:30

- Proud self-filled people have difficulty serving and submitting to others, especially those in positions of authority or leadership.

- **Humble selfless people, like Jesus, serve all in humility, without regard to status or position. They lift up those who can do them no benefit, as well as respectfully seeking to hold up those who have authority above them.**

“And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” – Matthew 20:27-28

- Proud self-filled people are always thinking about the good things they do for God, and how the church or ministry couldn't do without them.
- **Humble selfless people realize that without God, they can do nothing of value for His Kingdom. They feel humbled just to be used at all.**

“For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” – Philippians 2:13

- Proud self-filled people are often cold, distant, rigid, unforgiving and unapproachable. When misunderstandings occur, they wait for others to make the first move.
- **Humble selfless people are warm, loving, welcoming in their manners, forgiving, and easy to be entreated. They are quick to make amends.**

“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.” – Ephesians 4:31-32

- Proud self-filled people are often defensive when criticized, and don't want others to know when they have made a mistake or done wrong.
- **Humble selfless people receive criticism with a humble open heart and seek to grow by it. They are not overly concerned when others see their failures.**

“For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights.” – Proverbs 3:12

- Proud self-filled people tend to walk alone and have difficulty sharing their spiritual struggles and needs with others.
- **Humble selfless people are willing to be open, vulnerable, and real before others. They aren't concerned about appearing weak, but want to be genuine that God's strength can be glorified even in their times of weakness.**

“And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” – 2 Corinthians 12:9

- Proud self-filled people, when confessing sins to God, tend to confess in vague generalities. “Dear God, please forgive me for all my sins.”
- **Humble selfless people, when confessing sins to God, always confess specific sins. “Dear God, please forgive me for _____.”**

"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." – James 5:16

- Proud self-filled people are concerned with being respectable and not a spectacle, and thus they often live a self-righteous façade.
- **Humble selfless people are more concerned with being right with God, and they shun all forms of hypocrisy or double living.**

"For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." – 1 Samuel 16:7

- Proud self-filled people compare themselves to others and feel deserving of honor and salvation.
- **Humble selfless people recognize their true sinful condition, and praise God that He sent His Son so that, though undeserving, they could receive salvation and honor.**

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." – Romans 5:8

- Proud self-filled people think they are pretty much ok, but they are blind to their true heart condition.
- **Humble selfless people have a continual attitude of "God be merciful to me a sinner!"**

"And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'" – Luke 18:13

- Proud self-filled people don't think they need revival, but they think everyone else does. *(In fact, right about now, they are making a mental list of all those who need to read this list.)*
- **Humble selfless people will be the first to acknowledge that they need daily spiritual revival! They are constantly sensing their need of a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in their hearts and lives.**

"Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?" – Psalm 85:6

"Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily." – Psalm 86:3

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