

One Hour Alone With God Prayer Guide

How does God speak to us?

Spend the next hour reading slowly through this prayer meditation for renewal. Before you start, ask God to speak to you during this next hour. This is a great time for couples or families to share in prayer. The Scriptures used in this meditation help us give honor and glory to Christ, and help us know we can trust Him to lead us.

If we are to have renewal, it must begin with me! I must be willing to lay my life, talents, time, money, and all that I am on God's altar. Renewal comes from God alone. It comes to His people through soul searching, confession of sins, and emptying of self. Then they are ready to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Am I willing to be filled with the Spirit?

Do I have enough faith to let God do with me as He wills?

Confess all known sin to the Lord.

Read Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:8-9; and Psalm 51:1-6.

Three kinds of sin must be confessed:

1. Private—against God alone—must be confessed to God alone.
2. Personal—sins against others—there can be no peace until this sin is confessed to God.
3. Public—sins against the Body of Christ—all gossip, tale bearing, wrong attitudes, whisperings "You know what?" and—sins against society—lack of involvement, wrong attitudes, "I was thirsty and you ..."

If these are not confessed, we cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit. There must be cleansing then filling; power then witnessing; self-preparation then others.

Make room for God's best. Ask God.

In a quiet time alone with God, take time to examine your own heart. Turn the pages slowly; consider each question. Let God grade you; lay bare every sin and ask God's forgiveness. Remember, *"If we say, 'We have no sin,' we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:8-9).

Am I really concerned about renewal?

Am I willing to pay the price?

Am I willing to do anything God wants me to?

Is renewal first in my plans?

Am I sinning by not praying?

"You do not have because you do not ask" (James 4:2).

Have I neglected the Word of God?

Have I forgiven everyone?

Is all resentment out of my heart?

Am I willing to ask forgiveness from anyone I have wronged in any way?

Am I impatient?

Am I irritable?

Do I get offended easily?

Do my "hurt feelings" keep me from serving God?

Do I get angry?

Do I bear grudges?

Do I blow up?

Do I swell up with resentment?

Do I have ill will toward anyone?

Am I willing to ask God right now to help me put it out of my heart?

Read Matthew 6:12-15; 18:21-35; Luke 6:27-37

Have I been dishonest with God or with my church?

Have I broken any promise or pledge made to God?

Have I kept my prayer promise made in an emergency now that the crisis is over?

Am I dishonest with others?

Do I try to leave a wrong impression if I can?

Do I covet what others have?

Am I too concerned about things?

Have I sought physical blessings more than spiritual blessings?

Have I paid all my debt to others?

Do I have anything in my possession which does not rightly belong to me?

Do I have any habits which I should forsake?

Have I realized my total dependence on God for deliverance?

Is there jealousy in my heart?

Do I have sinful pride in my heart?

Have I wronged anyone and failed to make restitution?

Did I pray for those involved?

Is my mind honest and clean in the sight of God?

Am I faithful to my wedding vows both in thoughts and deeds?

Read Matthew 5:28.

Am I willing and ready to forgive any wrong against me or my family?

Do I have a secret sin which I excuse but should forsake?

Have I been worried about things over which I have no control?

Do I fret or complain about the leaders in the church?

Does my pastor know that he can count on me?

Am I a minister of reconciliation and an ambassador for Christ in the marketplace

and in the community where I live, work, and play?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Am I guilty of the sin of unbelief?

Am I salt and light in my world?

Read Matthew 5:13-16

Do I really believe in the power of God to cleanse any sin ... to change my life ... to take care of any situation ... to guide me in my decisions?

Remember now the marvelous grace of God. God has promised to forgive every confessed sin.

Read Isaiah 1:18, 44:21-22; Hebrews 8:12, 10:17; 1 John 1:7, 9

God loves you, do not despair! Pray for yourself, for cleansing, for strength, and for courage to forsake sin.

Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit. Trust God, fear not!

Surrender your self-will, ambition, desires, plans, hopes, time, and talent. You are giving yourself to One who loves you, knows you—your past and your future—all about you. God's way is best for you!

Pray for your church, your pastor, for other leaders, and for weak Christians. Pray for unity and love in the church. Examine yourself to make sure you are a help and not a problem in the church.

Worship God!

Suggested Bible readings: Psalm 95:6; John 4:24; Revelation 14:7; Isaiah 6:1-8

Praise the Lord! Thank God for the blessings you have received.

Read Psalms 9:11; 67:3; Hebrews 13:15. Four-fold reason for praise: 1 Peter 2:9

Thank God for your cleansing, for God's forgiveness, for the Holy Spirit, for victory, and for renewal!

Thank Him for the opportunity He is going to give you to witness before this renewal weekend is over!

Expect great things from God!

Do not be afraid to go where God leads or to give your testimony. God bless you!

How has God impressed you through this meditation?

I pray for a great Holy Spirit Lay Renewal! May our Lord bless and cleanse us.