

Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:5-8

Topic: Self Examination

INTRODUCTION: Periodically, every individual should take time to pause and evaluate the _____ level and condition of our _____ in order to make ourselves more effective for God.

I. PERSONAL:

A. What I Have Done Right:

1. There are things that I have done right from the time that I have _____ and obeyed the Gospel of Jesus Christ – I _____ of my sins, I was _____ in the Name of Jesus Christ and then I received the _____ of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38
2. I have built a daily relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ through spending time in _____, time to read and study the _____ of God, time to be with the _____ of Christ in prayer and worship.
3. I have involved myself in some ministry to use the talents and _____ that God has given me with the goal to be a part of reaching _____ souls in my world. I Cor. 14:26
4. These things are the right things for all of us to do and if we do them with the right _____ and the correct _____, we will be blessed by God and see the hand of God use us for His glory. Mk. 16:20

B. What I Have Done Wrong:

1. We have all heard and used the expression, “Nobody’s perfect” and this is the _____, none of us have done everything perfectly – we have all made _____. Phil. 3:12
2. Most of the time we all know what and when we have done something _____ because the Spirit of God inside of us begins to _____ us and move us to repent and change our behavior. Ps. 26:2
3. The worst thing that we could do is to ignore or deny that we have done _____ for that will cause us to lose the blessing of _____ in our lives. I Jn. 1:8
4. The best thing that we can do when we have done _____ is to confess it to the Lord Jesus and ask for forgiveness and help to not _____ it again. I Jn. 1:9

C. What Can I Do Better:

1. No matter how long we have served the Lord or how much we have been _____ by God, the will of God is for us to continue to improve and _____. Jn. 15:5,7
2. If we will continue to walk with God _____ and do what we know is right, the Lord God will lead us into new dimensions of _____ in our personal lives and ministry.

II. MINISTRY:

A. What We Are Doing Right:

1. There are many things in ministry that we do correctly, and do according to the _____ of God, and in return we experience good _____ and fruitfulness of the ministry. Ps. 126:6
2. Each ministry should be experiencing _____ both numerically and spiritually, watching people become involved and developing their talents and gifts within the ministry and _____. I. Cor. 12:12
3. A ministry that is moving in the _____ direction will be anointed and blessed by God, and effective in impacting the _____ of people. Acts 8:5-8

B. What We May Be Doing Wrong:

1. As effective and blessed that our ministries may be, we need to _____ them from time to time to see if there is anything we may be _____ incorrectly either by way of omission or commission.
2. If we find that we are doing something incorrectly, we need to make _____ so that we will be doing that which is pleasing to _____ and have His approval. Acts 15:28,29
3. No ministry, no matter how good and _____ it is, is perfect.

C. What Can We Do Better?

1. Once we have prayerfully examined our ministries and God leads us to _____ upon what we are doing, we need to take _____ to implement the needed changes.
2. This should involve input from both the leaders and the participants in the _____, recognizing that it will require the unified efforts of everyone to become _____ equipped and more effective.

III. SPECIAL EVENTS:

A. What Did We Do Right:

1. We all look forward to special events – conferences, special meetings, outings, etc. and we _____ with prayer and fasting, anticipating a _____ of God and seeing results.
2. With proper preparation and planning and the cooperation of the _____ involved, the event most often is a success and people are reached with the Gospel and the church is strengthened and encouraged to _____ forward in faith.
3. When a review and examination is done _____ the event, one can see what was done _____ and how it contributed to the success of the endeavor, thus paving the way to follow the pattern for any future events.

B. What Did We Do Wrong:

1. Nothing on earth is perfect and there will always be the possibility for something to go _____ and for mistakes to be made, and the analysis will help reveal _____ and _____ was the cause.
2. The old expression, “we learn from our mistakes’ is _____ so long as we recognize and admit that which we did _____ and make the necessary corrections.
3. Some things go wrong that are beyond our _____ - like flight delays, weather conditions, traffic jams, sickness, etc., so in these cases we have to learn to _____ and improvise in the situation.

C. What Can We Do Better:

1. After examining the efforts and results of the event, and then holding a _____ of discussion and brainstorming, _____ and inspiration can be birthed to make the event even better for the next time.
2. Efforts will then be concentrated on doing what has proven to be the most _____ way to minister and help the most souls be saved and drawn _____ to God.

CONCLUSION: The will of God is for His people and His _____ to continually grow and improve in ministry and effectiveness, and self-examination is a good _____ to review our progress and development, and then to make any needed changes in order to do even better. Acts 16:5