

Seeking The Face of God

Prayer Guide

Week 20

Requirements for Seeking His Face: Repentance before Others

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

James 5:16 (NLT)



Prayer Focus: Repentance always begins with God. But we live in a world of relationships with other people, and everyone in those relationships are fragile, fallen people, and there are times of hurt and sin. Repentance before God is not always enough. James reminds us that there are times when we need to confess our sins to one another for there to be true healing. Repentance toward God is easier for us because God is not someone we have to confront face to face. Repentance before other people is much more difficult because we must deal with issues of pride, and feelings of hurt. Psalm 133 is a reminder to us that our relationships with others around us are important to God. James gives us the same understanding. God links our healing to our open relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. To the degree I hide my sin, or refuse to confess it to those I have offended or hurt, to that degree I am closing myself off from the blessings and healing of God, and I will not be able to travel far on the road of seeking His Face. As difficult as it may seem to us to repent and confess before one another, it is an essential part of the journey to seeking the Face of God. Only by the power of the Holy Spirit can we die to self, and live such lives of love and confession with one another, but it is necessary in order to seek His Face.

- Day 1:** Ask the Lord to give you a heart that is sensitive to His Spirit in this area of repentance. Ask Him to teach you to easily confess and repent in your relationships.
- Day 2:** Examine your heart today and allow the Lord to reveal to you any broken relationships, anyone that you need to go and confess and repent to for your actions or attitudes.
- Day 3:** Examine the Scriptures for examples of people whose hearts demonstrated humility and repentance. Ask the Lord to teach you from their lives.
- Day 4:** Pray for a heart that is free from pride, so that you will be able to live a lifestyle of repentance and quick confession.
- Day 5:** Pray for your church to encourage, and facilitate confession and repentance as a lifestyle among its people.
- Day 6:** Pray for other churches in your city, to teach confession and repentance as a lifestyle to their members and in relation with other churches also.
- Day 7:** Pray for those serving on the mission field to live lives of repentance and quick confession as a testimony of the grace of God.