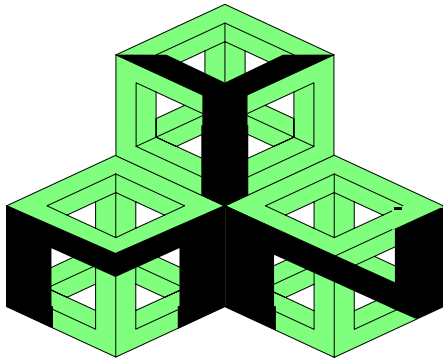


Also in this series:

A Call to Worship
A Call to Character
A Call to Thanksgiving
A Call to Identity
A Call to Inheritance



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A CALL TO

REPENTANCE

*If My people who are called by My name,
will humble themselves and pray and seek
my face and turn from their wicked ways,
then I will hear from heaven and will
forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

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29 SERVICE & MOTIVES

Why are you serving God? Is it out of a genuine love for Him and His people?

Do you secretly enjoy and even crave any attention and admiration you receive through serving God?

Are you ambitious? Do you see service solely as a means to gain greater responsibility for yourself?

Nehemiah 2¹⁻⁶

Isaiah 6¹⁻⁸

Matthew 23¹⁻⁷

Mark 10³⁵⁻⁴⁵

John 21¹⁵⁻¹⁷

1 Corinthians 4¹⁻⁵

Revelation 2²⁻⁵

30 SERVICE & PERSONAL STANDARDS

Is the quality of your service an example to those whom you serve?

Are you happy for those you serve to see you in any circumstance?

Do you live a life worthy of the calling which God has placed upon your life?

1 Corinthians 4¹⁰⁻¹⁶

2 Corinthians 6³⁻¹⁰

Philippians 4⁸

1 Timothy 3¹⁻¹³

1 Timothy 4¹²⁻¹⁶

Titus 1⁵⁻¹¹

2 Peter 1⁵⁻⁸

A CALL TO REPENTANCE

True repentance arises out of an appreciation of God's kindness:

"You seem to ignore God's riches of goodness and patience, not realising that His kindness is intended to lead you to repentance." (Romans 2⁴)

True repentance produces joyful refreshing, not burdensome guilt:

"So repent and be changed, and your sins will be forgiven. Then you will be refreshed in the presence of the Lord." (Acts 3¹⁹)

True repentance produces a change that goes beyond tears:

"Now I am glad, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led you to repent. Because this godly sorrow caused you to turn to God, you didn't mind that we corrected you. For godly sorrow produces repentance and salvation, which is a wonderful thing! Worldly sorrow produces death, but look what godly sorrow brought about in your life: you are determined to remain clean; you are angry at what you did; you respect God more than before; you love Him more than before; you are serving Him more fully than before, and you long for His justice! All of this proves that you have been forgiven and cleansed! (2 Corinthians 7⁹⁻¹¹)

True repentance relies on God's efforts to change us - not our own efforts:

"It is God who is working in you to make you willing and able to obey Him." (Philippians 2¹³)

1 TIME ALONE WITH GOD

How long do you set aside each day for Bible study and prayer, compared to your other activities?

How consistent are you in maintaining time alone with God?

What is your attitude to time spent with God in this way?

Joshua 1⁸

Psalms 119⁹⁷⁻¹⁰⁴

Matthew 26³⁶⁻⁴⁵

Luke 6^{12,13}

Luke 18¹⁻⁸

Philippians 4^{6,7}

2 Timothy 2¹⁵

2 WORSHIP

Has familiarity with God caused times of personal and corporate worship to grow cold?

Have you lost a sense of love and devotion toward God?

Are you cultivating an attitude of continual worship toward God throughout the day?

Exodus 20¹⁸⁻²¹

Psalms 8

Psalms 148

Ezekiel 1²⁶⁻²⁸

Mark 12²⁸⁻³⁰

Revelation 3^{15,16}

Revelation 19¹¹⁻¹⁶

27 SERVICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Are you using the gifts and opportunities God has given you?

Do you give of your very best in serving God?

Do you resent it when others “check up on you”?

Isaiah 5¹⁻⁷

Ezekiel 3¹⁷⁻²¹

Matthew 24⁴⁵⁻⁵¹

Matthew 25¹⁴⁻³⁰

1 Corinthians 3¹⁰⁻¹⁵

2 Timothy 4⁶⁻⁸

James 3¹

28 SERVICE AND COMMITMENT

Is your commitment to the people you serve an example to others and pleasing to God?

Do you watch over and pray for those you serve?

Do you serve others as though you were serving Christ?

Matthew 25³¹⁻⁴⁶

John 10¹¹⁻¹⁶

Acts 20²⁸⁻³¹

2 Corinthians 2⁴

2 Corinthians 4⁷⁻¹²

Philippians 1³⁻¹¹

1 Thessalonians 2⁹⁻¹²

25 THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE

Is your witness before those in authority (state, employers, teachers, etc.), one that brings glory to God?

Do you obey authority figures, even when they seem wrong?

Do you submit to all the laws of the land?

Luke 20²¹⁻²⁵

Acts 16²⁵⁻³⁴

Romans 13¹⁻⁷

Ephesians 6⁵⁻⁸

1 Timothy 2¹⁻⁴

1 Timothy 6^{1,2}

Titus 3^{1,2}

3 FAITH

Do you find yourself doubting God's promises to you?

Does fear cause you to hold back and be disobedient to God?

Are you becoming negative about life and prospects for the future?

Numbers 13²⁵⁻³³

Judges 6¹¹⁻¹⁶

Proverbs 3^{5,6}

Isaiah 41⁸⁻¹³

Jeremiah 29¹¹

John 16³³

Philippians 4¹⁹

26 THE AUTHORITY OF PARENTS

Do you honour your parents and respect their advice?

Do you consider your parents feelings and their needs?

Do you refuse to speak against your parents, even behind their backs?

Proverbs 23²²

Exodus 21¹⁷

1 Samuel 2²²⁻²⁵

Proverbs 30¹⁷

Matthew 15³⁻⁶

John 19²⁵⁻²⁷

Ephesians 6¹⁻³

4 GRATITUDE

Do you take for granted all the material and spiritual blessings God has given you?

Do you neglect to thank God for answered prayer?

Do you complain about things that are going wrong rather than thank God in every circumstance?

Psalms 138¹⁻³

Mark 8¹⁻⁸

Luke 17¹¹⁻¹⁹

Acts 16²²⁻²⁵

Ephesians 5¹⁸⁻²⁰

Philippians 4¹¹⁻¹³

1 Thessalonians 5¹⁶⁻¹⁸

5 LEVITY

Do you show a lack of respect toward God and His greatness?

Do you joke about things that are sacred?

Is your relationship with God superficial because of a lack of serious thought about spiritual issues?

Genesis 25²⁹⁻³⁴

Exodus 3⁴⁻⁶

1 Samuel 2¹²⁻¹⁷

2 Samuel 6¹⁻¹¹

Mark 11¹⁵⁻¹⁷

Hebrews 2¹⁻³

Hebrews 12^{28,29}

23 THE AUTHORITY OF GOD

Do you resent having to face the consequences of sin?

Do you complain when you go through trials that have the potential to shape you as a person?

Are you doing things you know to be contrary to the Word of God?

Job 2¹⁻¹⁰

Proverbs 3^{11,12}

Romans 5³⁻⁵

1 Corinthians 3^{16,17}

Galatians 6^{7,8}

James 1²¹⁻²⁵

James 4¹³⁻¹⁶

6 LOVE FOR OTHERS

Is your love for others unconditional?

Do you love even those who dislike you?

Do you express your love for others through practical acts of kindness?

Luke 6²⁷⁻³⁶

Luke 10²⁵⁻³⁷

John 13^{34,35}

John 15^{12,13}

Romans 13⁸⁻¹⁰

1 Corinthians 13¹⁻⁷

1 John 4⁷⁻²¹

24 THE AUTHORITY OF CHURCH LEADERS

Do you criticise those in positions of spiritual responsibility?

Do you resent it when another Christian points out your sin?

Are you obedient to the instruction of church leaders?

Matthew 18¹⁵⁻¹⁷

2 Corinthians 7⁸⁻¹²

2 Corinthians 13¹⁰

Ephesians 4¹¹⁻¹⁶

1 Thessalonians 5^{12,13}

Titus 1⁵⁻⁹

Hebrews 13¹⁷

21 HYPOCRISY

Do you instruct others to live in a way you are not willing to live yourself?

Do you try to appear more "spiritual" before others than you really are?

Are you quick to "cast the first stone" at someone else before examining your own life?

1 Samuel 15^{22,23}

Isaiah 65¹⁻⁵

Matthew 23²⁵⁻³⁵

Luke 18⁹⁻¹⁴

John 8³⁻¹¹

Galatians 2¹¹⁻¹⁴

Hebrews 4^{12,13}

22 CAUSING OTHERS TO SIN

Do you do things that may not be sin in themselves, but set a poor example and tempt others to sin?

Do you water down the gospel when presenting it to others?

Does your life present a good witness of what a Christian is supposed to be?

Matthew 18^{6,7}

Romans 14¹⁹⁻²³

1 Corinthians 8⁴⁻¹³

2 Corinthians 1¹²

Galatians 2¹¹⁻¹⁴

Ephesians 6⁴

2 Thessalonians 3⁶⁻⁹

7 CRITICISM

Are you quicker to see other's faults than you are their qualities?

Do you say things about people you wouldn't say to their face?

Do you pray regularly for those people you are tempted to criticise?

Psalms 15¹⁻³

Psalms 41⁵⁻⁹

Proverbs 6¹²⁻¹⁵

Matthew 7¹⁻⁵

Romans 2¹⁻³

Romans 14¹⁰⁻¹³

James 4¹¹⁻¹²

8 ENVY

Do you find yourself disliking others because you envy their success, appearance, possessions, abilities...

Do you secretly rejoice when others who seem better off than you, suffer misfortune?

Does it hurt when you hear others praised and recognised for what they are doing?

Genesis 37³⁻¹¹

1 Samuel 18⁶⁻⁹

Proverbs 23^{17,18}

Proverbs 24^{17,18}

Matthew 20¹⁻¹⁶

Mark 15⁶⁻¹¹

James 3^{14,16}

9 UNFORGIVENESS

Are there people you refuse to forgive because of what they've said or done?

Are there people you've forgiven but not "forgotten"?

Are there people who hold a grudge against you, and you've done nothing to bring about reconciliation?

Proverbs 25²¹⁻²²

Matthew 5²¹⁻²⁶

Matthew 18²¹⁻³⁵

Luke 23^{33,34}

2 Corinthians 2³⁻¹¹

Ephesians 4²⁵⁻³²

Colossians 3^{12,13}

10 HONESTY

Do you tell the truth regardless of consequences?

Do you allow people to get the wrong impression about a situation (without actually telling a lie)?

Are you open and transparent in your dealings with people?

Leviticus 19^{11,13}

Deuteronomy 25¹³⁻¹⁶

Proverbs 4²⁴⁻²⁷

Proverbs 6¹⁶⁻¹⁹

Isaiah 33¹⁴⁻¹⁶

Matthew 26⁶⁹⁻⁷⁵

2 Corinthians 4^{1,2}

19 LACK OF CONFESSION

Do you regularly set aside time for confession of sin?

Are there areas of sin in your life that you are deliberately refusing to confess?

Do you confess sin as soon as you become convicted of it?

2 Chronicles 7^{13,14}

Psalms 32³⁻⁵

Psalms 66¹⁶⁻²⁰

Daniel 9³⁻⁷

1 Corinthians 11²⁷⁻³¹

2 Corinthians 7⁸⁻¹¹

1 John 1⁵⁻¹⁰

20 TAKING SIN LIGHTLY

Do you confess sin without really repenting?

Have you wronged people without putting things right?

Do you ignore "little sins" thinking they don't matter?

Exodus 9²⁷⁻³⁵

Exodus 22¹⁻⁴

Numbers 20⁷⁻¹²

Psalms 51¹⁻¹²

Matthew 3⁷⁻⁹

Acts 5¹⁻¹¹

Revelation 2¹⁸⁻²³

17 LOVE OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE

Do you compromise your beliefs so
as to be liked by other people?

Are you involved in friendships that
are not pleasing to God and are
tempting you to sin?

Are you demonstrating God's love to
the people around you by your

Psalms 1^{1,2}

Proverbs 1¹⁰⁻¹⁹

Amos 3³

John 17¹¹⁻¹⁹

2 Corinthians 6^{14,15}

Philippians 2¹⁴⁻¹⁶

Hebrews 11^{35-38a}

18 LOVE OF THE WORLD'S POSSESSIONS

Do you worry about whether or not
God will supply all your essential
needs?

Do you find yourself looking at
possessions and thinking, "If only I
had that...?"

Are you generous in giving to those
less fortunate than you?

Exodus 20¹⁷

Joshua 7^{1,10-13}

Proverbs 3^{9,10}

Matthew 6²⁴⁻³⁴

Matthew: 13^{7,22}

Luke 12¹⁶⁻²¹

1 Timothy 6⁷⁻¹⁰

11 UNWILLINGNESS TO DIE TO SELF

Are your own wants, desires and
ambitions put to death?

Are you actively seeking to discover
God's will in the decisions you are
faced with?

Do you get upset when you're
treated unfairly?

Matthew 5³⁸⁻⁴²

Luke 9²³⁻²⁶

Romans 8⁵⁻⁸

Romans 12¹

2 Corinthians 1³⁻⁷

Galatians 2^{19,20}

Colossians 3¹⁻⁴

12 UNWILLINGNESS TO SUFFER AND SACRIFICE

Do you give for the sake of others
"until it hurts"?

Do you give of yourself willingly to
others?

Do you willingly undergo
persecution for the sake of being
obedient to God?

Luke 9⁵⁷⁻⁶²

Acts 5⁴⁰⁻⁴²

2 Corinthians 9^{7,8}

2 Corinthians 11²²⁻²⁸

James 1²⁻⁴

1 Peter 4¹²⁻¹⁴

Revelation 12¹¹

13 PRIDE

Do you have too high an opinion of yourself and your ability?

Do you like to be independent and not receive other's help?

Does fear of failure limit your willingness to serve God?

Exodus 4¹⁻¹⁷

Psalms 131

Romans 12³

1 Corinthians 12¹⁴⁻²⁶

Philippians 2¹⁻¹¹

Philippians 3³⁻¹¹

1 Peter 3^{3,4}

15 LOVE OF THE WORLD'S ATTRACTIVENESS

Do you think more about the pleasure the world offers than you do about the blessings of God?

Do you get more excited about worldly pastimes than you do about Christian service?

Genesis 19¹²⁻²⁶

Ecclesiastes 2¹⁻¹¹

Philippians 3¹⁷⁻²¹

2 Timothy 2^{3,4}

2 Timothy 4⁹⁻¹¹

James 4¹⁻⁴

1 John 2¹⁵⁻¹⁷

14 LUST

Do you view members of the opposite sex as "objects" to satisfy your selfish lusts?

Do you control physical lusts such as greed, hunger, etc., or do they control you?

Do you strive for moral purity in your thoughts and deeds?

Genesis 39⁷⁻¹²

Job 31¹

Matthew 5²⁷⁻³⁰

1 Corinthians 9²⁴⁻²⁷

Galatians 5¹⁶⁻²⁵

Titus 1^{12,13}

Titus 2¹¹⁻¹³

16 LOVE OF THE WORLD'S STANDARDS

Do you compromise the high standards God sets because, "everyone is doing it"?

Do you measure your spirituality by comparing yourself to other Christians instead of God's Word?

Does your behaviour deteriorate around unbelievers?

Daniel 1³⁻⁸

Romans 12²

Ephesians 2¹⁻³

1 Thessalonians 5¹⁻¹⁰

James 1²¹⁻²⁷

1 John 5³⁻⁵

Revelation 2¹²⁻¹⁶