

On my journey with GOD, if I am honest, I have gotten off track a time or two.

Sometimes, it may have been intentional, but most times – it's a gradual process.

And before I know it – I am participating in sin & I've drifted far from GOD.

No one is immune to getting off track either.

That is why we should all to take a closer look at our relationship with GOD from time to time.

2 Corinthians 13:5 - Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

Throughout my Christian walk, I've had to "Examine" myself quite often.

The Greek word for "Examine" is – "peirazo" & means "to put to the test".

Paul is writing in this text: Put your relationship with GOD to the test – see if you are "IN" the faith.

Then Paul writes to: "Prove your own selves" – guarantee or validate who you are & Who you belong to.

Then Paul says this: Know that JESUS is in you – UNLESS you are "reprobate".

The Greek word for "reprobate" is – "adokimos" & means "not standing the test" or "unfit for".

So this morning, we are going to "Examine Ourselves".

We are going to "put to the test" who we say we are.

We are going to identify anything within us that would make us "unfit for" JESUS.

Taking inventory of ourselves begins on the "INSIDE" – not on the outside.

† **Psalm 139:23** - Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

Let's do some "Self-Reflecting" & put to the test where we REALLY stand with GOD.



Let's ask the HOLY SPIRIT to reveal in us any imperfections.

Exodus 20:3-17

1. WHO IS FIRST

† **Exodus 20:3** - Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Does GOD get the first part of you – or does HE get what is left over?

2. WHAT DO YOU WORSHIP

† **Exodus 20:4** - Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness *of any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth:

† **Exodus 20:5** - Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me;

Do you care more about the things man created, than the GOD who created you?

3. HOW DO YOU REPRESENT JESUS

† **Exodus 20:7** - Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Do you live out the name of JESUS everywhere you go or just at church?

4. WHEN DO YOU REST

† **Exodus 20:8** - Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

† **Exodus 20:9** - Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

† **Exodus 20:10** - But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the LORD thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates:

Do you take time weekly to recharge your battery?



5. HOW DO YOU TREAT AUTHORITY

† **Exodus 20:12** - Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Do you respect your parents or your guardian, as well as those in power?

6. DO YOU CONTROL YOUR TEMPER

† **Exodus 20:13** - Thou shalt not kill.

Do you think about positive things or do you dwell on things that make you angry?

7. DO YOU CONTROL YOUR LUST

† **Exodus 20:14** - Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Do you have self-control over your desires?

8. DO YOU HAVE INTEGRITY

† **Exodus 20:15** - Thou shalt not steal.

Is your character respected?

9. ARE YOU TRUTHFUL

† **Exodus 20:16** - Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Does your word carry any weight?

10. ARE YOU CONTENT

† **Exodus 20:17** - Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Are you happy with what you have?



Did the HOLY SPIRIT reveal any imperfections in you?

† **1 John 1:8** - If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

† **1 John 1:10** - If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Take just a few moments to ask GOD to forgive you for them.

† **1 John 1:9** - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ask the HOLY SPIRIT to help you grow & teach you

† **John 14:26** - But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Paul also reminds us to “Examine Ourselves” when we observe the LORD’s table.

† **1 Corinthians 11:23** - For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread:

† **1 Corinthians 11:24** - And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, **Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.**

† **1 Corinthians 11:25** - After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, **This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.**

† **1 Corinthians 11:26** - For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

† **1 Corinthians 11:27** - Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

† **1 Corinthians 11:28** - But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

† **1 Corinthians 11:29** - For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

As we prepare to take communion, “Examine Yourself”.

Make sure you are in good standings with the LORD.

