

# Week 2 - Dealing with Sins

Tuesday

**Scripture Reading:** Matt. 5:23-26; 1 John 1:5-9; 2 Tim. 2:22

**“God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.... But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.”** (*1 John 1:5b, 7*)

## How to Deal with Sins

Since the way to become vessels unto honor is to deal with our sins, we must find out as quickly as possible what they are. For this, the only way that is really effective is to have fellowship with God through His word.

In Matthew 5:23-24 we read, "Therefore if you are offering your gift at the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and first go and be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." To go to the altar and offer a gift to God means to have fellowship with God. It is as we have fellowship with God that we become conscious of our offenses and remember the sins we have committed. From then on we only need to correct the situation.

We also find a passage in First John that tells us that in fellowship with God, in His light, we see our sins and can confess them in order to be forgiven (vv. 5-9). God's light exposes what is within us and we thereby become conscious that we have offended God. In His light we see the sins which have offended Him. When we regret our wrongdoing and we confess it to the Lord; then the blood of Jesus cleanses us and we receive God's forgiveness.

### Fellowship with God

If we want to be a vessel unto honor in God's house, it is fundamental that we seek His presence. Only in the light of God's presence can we see our true condition, both in relation to God and to others. God is the One who sets the standard of what is right and what is wrong, what offends Him and also what offends others. We cannot define this standard; it is defined and decided by the very Lord of the universe. For this reason, we should learn to live in fellowship with God. Many times we speak and do things in a loose way, yet we feel we are all right. However, when we seek God's presence, His light enlightens us inwardly and we do not feel as well as we did before. Little by little the Lord causes us to remember certain words and offenses; then we repent, confess and ask for forgiveness. This causes our condition to change from one of dishonor to one of honor.

If we will consider a little, we can easily realize that we cannot depend on the standards established by society. The things that were considered to be immoral and shameful ten years ago, today are approved and thought to be very natural. Is this a sign of the times? Who changed: God or man? God does not change; He remains eternally unchanging. However, man does change. We cannot ignore the fact that, without God and under Satan's control, human society has had to change. Not too long ago we would avoid the worst student or the worst things as bad company, but today, to be "good" is abnormal. We used to say that among many people there was always one black sheep. Today it is rare to find any white sheep.

We cannot depend on our own standards either because they are subject to change. By living in an environment full of problems and inconsistencies, our eyes, our feelings and our thoughts become altered. Outward things gradually influence our inner being, then suddenly we are surprised and say, "But if everyone is doing it, why can't I do it?" This uncertainty seems to be logical, right? This only confirms the fact that we are easily influenced. We should not think that we are so strong and capable of withstanding any kind of influence.

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Our ability to resist the pressures of the world is very limited. We can resist up to a certain point, but eventually, in the end, we will give in. For this reason, we should not be surprised by what the apostle Paul said to Timothy, to flee youthful lusts (2 Tim. 2:22).

We need to have fellowship with God. When we are in God's presence we are spontaneously enlightened. To be enlightened by God is different from trying to guess or remember what sins we have committed. We live in a dark world where people live in darkness. The only solution for this darkness is light. First John 1:5b describes it very well: "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." Behold the secret: we must live in the light; we must live in fellowship with God. Whether we will be cleansed or not is directly related to how much fellowship we have with God.

There is a question we should ask ourselves and answer honestly: "How has our fellowship with God been?" Many times we speak about how helpful and sweet fellowship is, but we actually have very little fellowship. Even though we are in the Lord's recovery, if our living is not in fellowship with God, it will be difficult for us to be recovered. We can hear and read many spiritual words, but if we are not intimate with the Lord, there will be little profit because we will remain the same within. Only God's light can enlighten our inner being so that we are able to confess our sins and the darkness in us can then be eliminated. This is how the recovery is carried out in us.

### Key Point:

Follow

### Your Key Point:

### Question:

What price is the Lord asking you to pay to go on with Him another step?