

"But let a man
examine himself..."

I Corinthians 11:28



**Could it be that reflection and repentance
precede revival?**

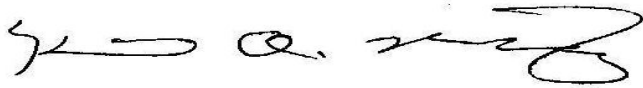
A 20-Day Exercise in Both

In the Hope of Personal Revival

Our study of revival has focused upon spiritual vitality: what it looks like, how we get there, and what can result. However, as we have discussed, the intent of the study is to cause us to take a careful (and healthy) look at our own lives and the life of our fellowship. The intent is that we identify *leaven* wherever it might be found, so that we can, through confession, remove its contaminating effects from our lives.

To this end, I thought the following pages might be of assistance in helping us to examine our own lives. It is a challenging list, but hopefully, coupled with the ministry of the Holy Spirit, it will be an instrument of cleansing and change. For revival is always preceded by repentance.

In His grace,



Kevin Redig, Pastor
Vistoso Community Church



The contents of this booklet have been adapted from three of the sheets from the "21 Days with Jesus at the Foot of the Cross" and materials of Life Action Ministries.

Personal Examination Day 1

Point of Repentance

Unforgiveness: I repent of harboring unforgiveness in my heart toward someone and for, perhaps, becoming embittered toward that person.

Put Off

Unforgiving spirit (Mark 11:26)

Put On

Heart forgiveness (Colossians 3:11-13)

For Reflection

Have you hurt someone close to you—a relative or friend or someone otherwise in your acquaintance? Do you need to go to that person and ask their forgiveness?



Personal Examination Day 2

Point of Repentance

Ingratitude: I repent of neglecting to thank God for the answered prayers and blessings in my life.

Put Off

Murmuring and complaining (Philippians 2:14)

Put On

Praise and thanksgiving to God (Psalm 100:4)

For Reflection

Are you thankful? Do you need to regularly and often remember to thank God for all that He has done for you in Christ? Are you forgetting His many benefits and provision on your behalf? Are you thankful to the Lord for all that He is teaching you? Are you thankful, even in hard trials, knowing that He is teaching you much and conforming you more to the image of His Son?



Personal Examination Day 3

Point of Repentance

Neglect of Bible Reading: I repent of keeping the Bible closed or of reading God's Word without focus.

Put Off

Pleasing man (Proverbs 29:25)

Put On

Pleasing God (Luke 12:4-5)

For Reflection

Do you feel a certain distance between you and God—a *coldness* of heart that you know is not right? Do you feel that you are sometimes just going through the motions with respect to worship, prayer, and Bible study? There are many reasons for changing feelings in our lives, but is it possible you simply need to be *revived*? If so, ask God to use the agents of revival: the Word of God, the Spirit of God, and the people of God to bring you back to the place of rejoicing in Him."



Personal Examination Day 4

Point of Repentance

Unbelief: I repent of doubting who God is and what God has said.

Put Off

Unbelief (Romans 14:23)

Put On

Faith (II Corinthians 5:7)

For Reflection

Are worry and anxiety filling your mind and heart? Are you worried about tomorrow and the future instead of trusting God? Are you worried about your health? Are there loved ones that you are anxious for that you need to leave in God's hands? Do you need to realize that there are worrisome situations in your life right now that you need to give over to the Lord?



Personal Examination Day 5

Point of Repentance

Prayerlessness: I repent of neglecting prayer, of leaning on man's solutions instead of seeking God's solutions and support in my life.

Put Off

Prayerlessness (Mark. 9:19)

Put On

Devotion to prayer (Matthew 7:7-11)

For Reflection

Do you live a largely self-sufficient life, not seeking to depend upon God, nor acknowledging the need for Him? Could this self-sufficiency explain your prayerless life? Do you boast, in your heart at least, that you are in need of no one? Do you need to set aside time each day to come before the Lord in praise and prayer?



Personal Examination Day 6

Point of Repentance

Unconcern for the Lost: I repent of leaving evangelism to the *professionals*.

Put Off

Wrong motives (Matthew 16:21-23)

Put On

Godly motives (1 Corinthians 10:31)

For Reflection

What are the motives of your heart? Why do you do what you do? What is your motive for serving in ministry or doing the work for which God has called you? Is it for the glory of God that you do things? Do you need to make God's glory the motive in your relationships with people?



Personal Examination Day 7

Point of Repentance

Pride: I repent of being impressed with my own reputation and accomplishments. I repent of any time that I am offended and resentful when someone else receives more attention for their accomplishments.

Put Off

Pride (Proverbs 16:5)

Put On

Humility (1 Peter 5:5)

For Reflection

Remember how hard it can be to see pride in your own life. Do you often consider that you might have a prideful heart? Are you looking for the praise of people or the approval of God? Do you find yourself looking down on others, thinking that you are better than they? Do you need to regularly ask God to search your heart and show you any pride that is there?



Personal Examination Day 8

Point of Repentance

Critical Spirit: I repent of finding fault with someone because he or she doesn't measure up to my standards.

Put Off

Judging others (Matthew 7:1-2)

Put On

Let God search my heart (Psalm 139:23-24)

For Reflection

Do you have a spirit of complaining? Do you whine a lot about the ways things are? Is this complaining and fault finding robbing you of your joy in the Lord? Do you need to turn your focus to how God can work in your life? Do you need to ask Him to renew your spirit so that you are more willing to forgive and accept?



Personal Examination Day 9

Point of Repentance

Robbing God: I repent of exercising my gifts or spending my time, money, or energy on things that have a selfish goal without asking God first.

Put Off

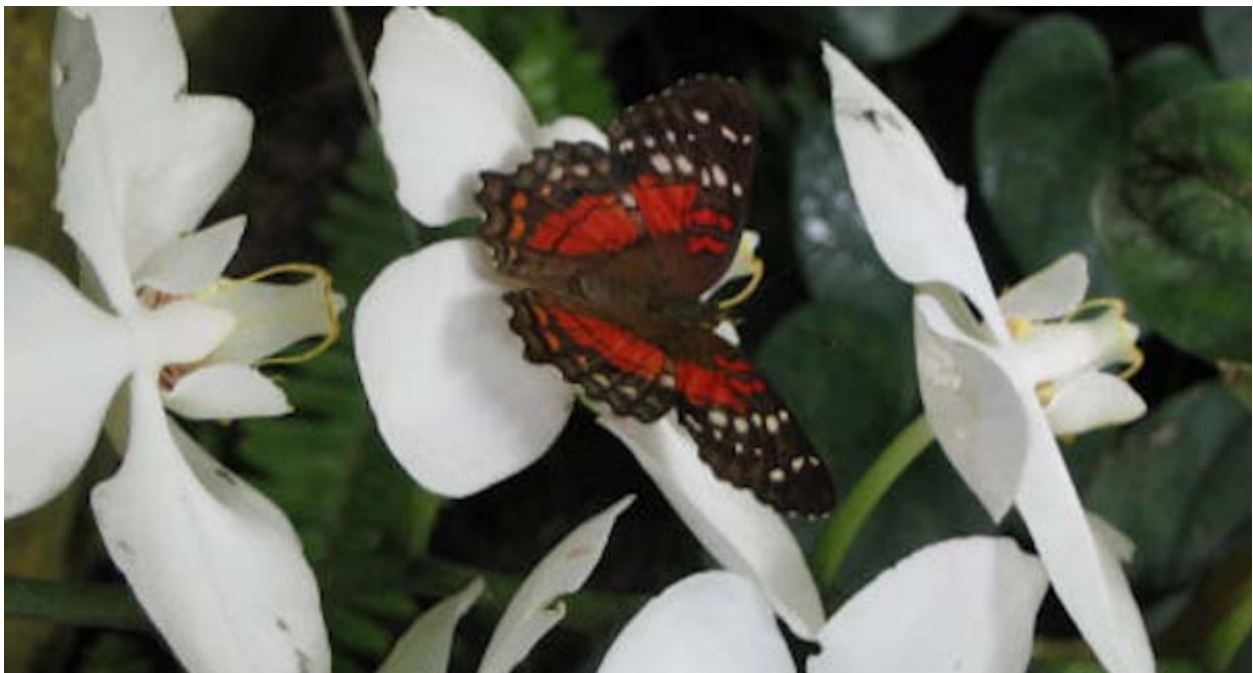
Stealing God's glory (Isaiah 42:8)

Put On

Giving God all the glory (Psalm 115:1)

For Reflection

Are you engaging in activities that do not bring honor to Christ? Right now, are there things that you need to say no to and to change in your life? Are you following God or following the crowd? Have you really given your life to Christ? If so, do you need to seek to walk in obedience to Him?



Personal Examination Day 10

Point of Repentance

Envy: I repent of any jealousy I have of those more gifted and fruitful and recognizable than I am.

Put Off

Insensitivity (1 John 3:17)

Put On

Compassion (Matthew 14:14)

For Reflection

Do you love the people in your life—your family, your friends and acquaintances, those you meet at the grocery store or elsewhere? Are you exhibiting the love of Christ everywhere you go? Do you need to ask God to help you love all the people in your life, even those more gifted and more fruitful.



Personal Examination Day 11

Point of Repentance

Slander: I repent of telling the truth about someone, with the intention of causing others to think less of him or her.

Put Off

Divisiveness (Proverbs 6:16, 19)

Put On

Peacemaking (Romans 14:19))

For Reflection

Might there be blind spots in your life? Are there areas that God wants to change? Do you need to ask God to show you what these might be?



Personal Examination Day 12

Point of Repentance

For Giving Up on My Marriage: I repent for losing hope in my marriage. I repent for wanting my spouse to change, but not wanting to change myself. I repent for holding past sins against my spouse.

Put Off

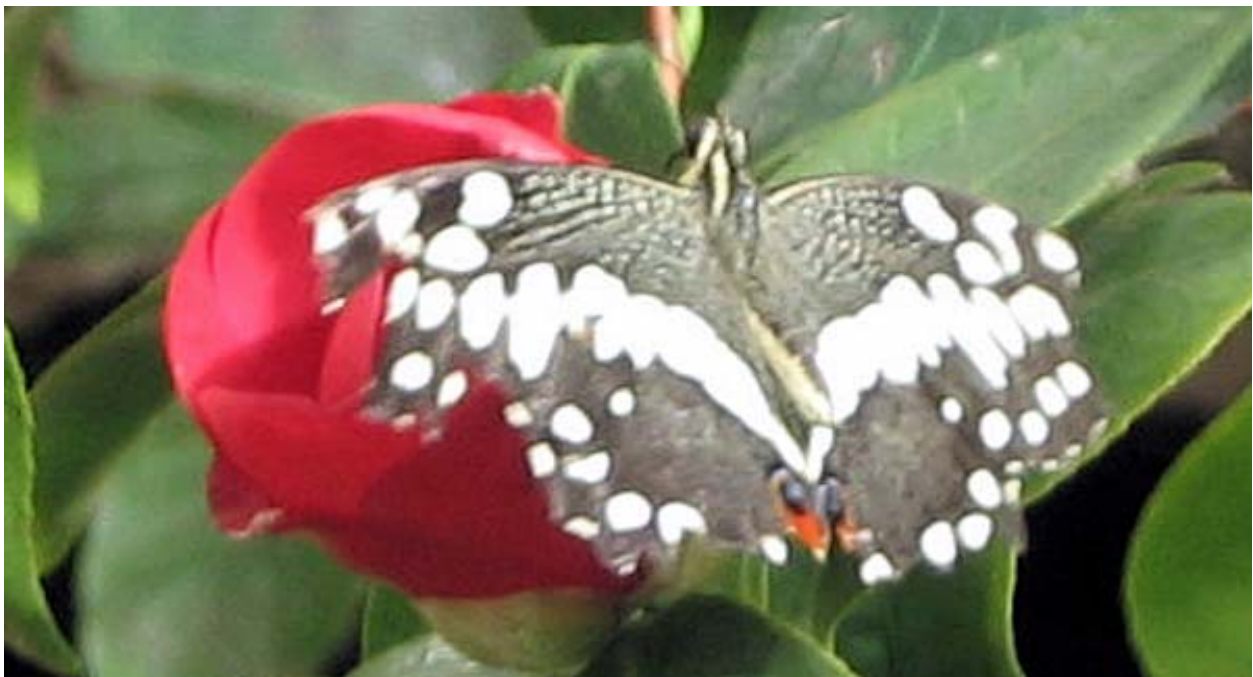
Impatience (Proverbs 19:2)

Put On

Patience (James 1:2-4)

For Reflection

How are you at home? Are you humble and tender toward your spouse? Are there unresolved conflicts? Is there unfaithfulness, either in thought or actions? Do you need to offer and receive forgiveness?



Personal Examination Day 13

Point of Repentance

Resisting God: I repent for saying no to the Spirit when He brings conviction; to resisting God in the changes He desires to make in my life; to closing myself off from the Spirit's examination of my life.

Put Off

Evil Thoughts (Matthew 15:12-20)

Put On

Pure Thoughts (Philippians 4:8)

For Reflection

Are you listening to God? Do you daily seek Him out in His Word? Do you need to listen for how He speaks to you through it? Is your heart open to the regular promptings of the Spirit? As you pray and study the Word, do you need to listen to God teaching for you?



Personal Examination Day 14

Point of Repentance

Reacting with Anger: I repent for all the times that I react with angry words and actions instead of exhibiting the gentleness that is the fruit of the Spirit.

Put Off

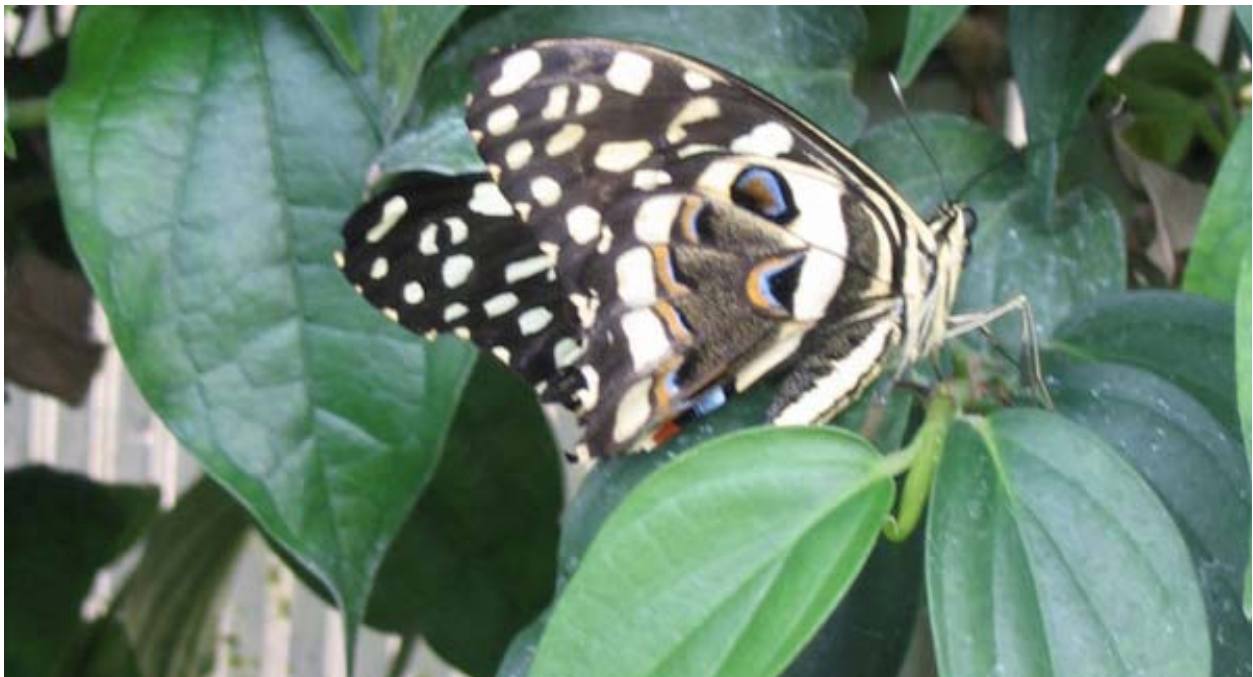
Anger (Proverbs 29:22)

Put On

Self-Control (Galatians 5:22-23)

For Reflection

Do you have a spirit of anger that manifests itself often? Are you injuring people with you're angry words, your temper, or even abusive actions? Do you need to spend time in prayer, seeking God's help in regaining self control? Do you need to seek the counsel of a mature Christian with insight in Godly self-control.



Personal Examination Day 15

Point of Repentance

Fear: I repent for being so afraid of what others may think and say that I remain silent, hiding the light of the Gospel under the basket of intimidation.

Put Off

Fear of insult (I Peter 4:14)

Put On

A ready answer for your hope (I Peter 3:14)

For Reflection

Are you exercising your gifts and talents in the church to God's glory? Do you need to develop close relationships with some brothers or sisters in Christ with whom you can be honest and transparent about your struggles to share the Good News?



Personal Examination Day 16

Point of Repentance

Idolatry: I repent of worshipping things, people, activities other than God.

Put Off

Idolatry (Deuteronomy 11:16)

Put On

Worship God only (Exodus 20:3)

For Reflection

Does technology (smart phones, laptops, I-Pads, I-Pods, Facebook, Twitter, e-mail, television, CDs, DVDs, and so forth) have such a grip on your life that it is stealing your time with God? Do you need to refocus your attention so that the Lord comes first before technology or the other idols of the world?



Personal Examination Day 17

Point of Repentance

Lack of Passion for God: I repent for going through the motions of church-going, but having a lukewarm heart toward God.

Put Off

Argumentativeness (Proverbs 29:22)

Put On

A Gentle Answer (Proverbs 15:1)

For Reflection

Are you skipping the vital refreshment of daily time in the Word and in prayer? Do you need to return to a focus on the Word, worship, and fellowship with other Christians as a means of strengthening your faith and belief in God and His Word?



Personal Examination Day 18

Point of Repentance

Lying: I repent of making statements, exaggerating, or inferring something that is contrary to the unvarnished truth.

Put Off

Gossip (1 Timothy 5:13)

Put On

Edifying speech (Ephesians 4:29)

For Reflection

Do you find yourself embellishing a story for better effect? Do you bend the truth to make your words better match what your listener wishes to hear? Do you need to ask the Spirit's aid in keeping your thoughts and words more in line with the truth?



Personal Examination Day 19

Point of Repentance

Self-Sufficiency: I repent of maintaining an independent spirit and trusting in myself rather than God.

Put Off

Robbing God (Malachi 3:7-8)

Put On

Sowing bountifully into God's work
(I Corinthians 9:6-15)

For Reflection

Is Christ still your first love? Think about this very carefully. Are there idols that have taken His place? Do idols such as hobbies or activities, money, material things, pleasure and entertainment, friends, or even family come before your commitment to God? Do you need to refocus your priorities on God and the work He has given you to do?



Personal Examination Day 20

Point of Repentance

The flesh: I repent of those things associated with my sinful nature—immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed (Colossians 3:5).

Put Off

The *Old Man* (Ephesians 4:22)

Put On

The *New Man* (Ephesians 4:24)

For Reflection

Much as you might desire to turn from the old and put on the new—do you find that the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak? Have you come to realize that within your own strength you cannot hope to control the flesh. Then you are ready to reckon yourself “dead unto sin” via the finished work of the cross, and alive unto God as a new creature in Christ! (Romans 6:11-14)





Vistoso Community Church

OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of Vistoso Community Church is to bring glory to God by completing the work He has given us to do.
John 17:4

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to be used by God to help the lost receive eternal life, and those with eternal life to grow in grace and knowledge.

OUR CORE VALUES

- Christ is the only Lord and Savior. Acts 2:36
- The Bible is the inspired word of God. II Timothy 3:16-17
- We honor God through traditional worship. Psalm 19:14
- Our loving fellowship strengthens us. Hebrews 10:24-25
- Seeking the lost is our commission. Matthew 28:19-20
- The principles of divine establishment are God given. Nehemiah. 4:14



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