

A Pastor's Self-Examination Daily Guide

MONDAY

My Relationship with God

Is there any unconfessed sin in my life that is hindering my fellowship with God and my effectiveness in ministry? (1 Jn. 1:9; Psalm 32:5; Prov. 28:13)

Am I a "God-fearing" man who relates to my God with a reverential sense of awe, respect, worship, honor, and accountability? (Prov. 1:7; 9:10; 2 Cor. 7:1; Phil. 2:12)

Does my ministry flow out of a heart that delights in God (Psalm 37:4), experiences His goodness (Psalm 34:8), and leads to knowing Him experientially? (Jer. 9:23-24)

Am I building my ministry upon the foundation of my absolute, total, and complete dependence upon God (Rom. 1:17; 2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:6), or upon my own gifts, talents, education, and experiences?

Do I cling to the promise of God's presence in my life (Heb. 13:5), as I prayerfully seek to live in His presence (Psalm 16:8; 1 Thess. 5:17), while integrating Him into every area of my life and ministry?

TUESDAY

My Relationship with Jesus

Am I reminding myself on a daily basis that the Lord Jesus Christ is to have first place in my life above all else, including pastoral ministry? (Col. 1:18)

Do others experience me as a Christ-centered, Christ-consumed, Christ-saturated, and Christ-empowered man who worships, loves, and serves his Savior? (Phil. 1:21; Col. 3:4; Heb. 12:1-2)

In light of my union with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection, am I allowing Christ to supernaturally live His resurrected life in and through me by faith? (Rom. 6:1-11; Gal. 2:20)

Am I intentionally "abiding in Christ" (Jn. 15:1-7) in light of His timeless reminder, "Without or apart from Me, you can do nothing?" (Jn. 15:5)

Am I cultivating an intimate first-love relationship with Christ (Rev. 2:4) as a result of making Him the supreme treasure of my life? (2 Cor. 5:14; Phil. 3:7-10; 1Pet. 1:8)

WEDNESDAY

My Relationship with the Holy Spirit

Do I continually acknowledge that my adequacy for ministry is not found in myself but rather in the supernatural ministry of the Holy Spirit? (2 Cor. 3:5-6)

Am I a "Spirit-filled" man who lives under the control of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18) while my life is marked with internal joy (Eph. 5:19), a thankful spirit (Eph. 5:20), and loving relationships? (Eph. 5:21-33)

Am I a "Spirit-empowered" man who lives through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:16) while manifesting the fruit of the Spirit which is "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control?" (Gal. 5:22-23)

Am I reminding myself enough that God's divine strength is released in my weaknesses rather than my strengths (2 Cor. 12:9-10), driving me to the grace of God, the resurrection power of Jesus Christ, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

Are there any broken relationships in my life that are fueling anger, resentment, and bitterness in my heart, causing me to "grieve" the ministry of the Holy Spirit? (Eph. 4:30)

THURSDAY

My Relationship with Christlikeness

Is God's eternal purpose of Christ-like transformation to the glory of God the ultimate goal of my life and my major objective for making disciples in my church? (Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; Jn. 13:15)

If my people were describing who I am to others, would they describe me as a Christ-like man who is continually becoming more like Christ? (2 Cor. 3:18)

Am I living with a passion to see "Christ formed in my people" (Gal. 4:19) out of my deep love and commitment for my people? (1 Pet. 2:21; 1 Jn. 2:6)

As a servant-leader, am I leading others with Christ-like humility with the purpose of self-sacrificially meeting the needs of others? (Mk. 10:45; Lk. 22:24-27)

Do I ever remind myself that the single greatest gift I can give to my family and those I minister to is the gift of a Christ-like life? (1 Cor. 11:1)

FRIDAY

My Relationship with Myself

Am I prioritizing the need to "keep watch" over my own soul (Act 20:28) before seeking to watch over the souls of others?

Am I carefully monitoring the quality of my own spiritual life with as much intentionality as I prepare and deliver my sermons? (1 Tim. 4:16)

Am I living a disciplined and balanced life (1 Cor. 9:24-27; 1 Tim. 4:7) spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and financially?

Am I living a morally pure life both privately and publicly as a leader who "abstains from sexual immorality, while modeling a sexually pure life in sanctification and honor?" (1 Thess. 4:3-7)

Am I living with a warfare mentality by "putting on the full armor of God" (Eph. 6:10-18) each day in light of the fact that my life, family, and ministry are the objects of demonic attacks on a daily basis? (Jam. 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8)

SATURDAY

My Relationship with My Motives for Ministry

Loving God and People: Am I finding my motivation for ministry in the two great commandments of loving God and people? (Mk. 12:28-34)

Biblical Discipleship: Am I finding my motivation for ministry in the single greatest mission on this planet, which is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ"? (Matt. 28:18-20)

The Authority of Scripture: Am I finding my motivation for ministry in God's holy, inerrant, authoritative, infallible, and all-sufficient Word, which saves, sanctifies, and transforms our lives into the image of Jesus Christ? (2 Cor. 3:18; Jn. 17:17)

The Return of Christ/The Judgment Seat of Christ: Am I finding my motivation for ministry in light of the imminent return of Christ (Rom. 13:11-14), and my desire to please Christ in light of my future accountability to Him at the Judgment Seat of Christ? (2 Cor. 5:9-10)

The Glory of God: Am I finding my motivation for ministry in the glory of God as I live and minister with the ultimate goal of exalting Him by expanding His reputation in this world through my life and ministry? (Isa. 42:8; 1 Cor. 10:31)