

This booklet is a brief spiritual preparation guide to help believers prepare for prayer and personal revival through cleansing and repentance. We are working on another format for this booklet and it will soon be available.

For now, the printing instructions for the current booklet form are as follows:

1. **COVER PAGE:** Not including this printing instruction page, the first page is the cover and back page for the booklet. You could print this on card stock paper. Begin numbering the pages with the 2nd page. Do not count the cover page or this page..
2. **THE FOLLOWING 8 PAGES:** These pages will copy in order if you select them as a 2 sided document.
3. **MAKE BOOKLET:** Staple the printed pages inside the cover to form the booklet.

#### Acknowledgement

The material for this guide is a compilation from several sources. The original material is attributed to Wilson L. Akins, Phoenix, Ariz, 1966. The material has been revised for use by the Evangelism Section, Home Mission Board.

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Prayer Evangelism Unit,  
North American Mission Board  
4200 North Point Parkway  
Alpharetta, Ga, 30022  
[www.namb.net/prayer](http://www.namb.net/prayer)

For general information call (770) 410-6333; to order  
prayer materials call 1 866-407-6262

HMB  
HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC  
Mass Evangelism Department

1350 Spring Street, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30367-5601

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# SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

## SPIRITUAL PREPARATION GUIDE

A guide for personal prayer and awakening

Some are active-concerned-dedicated-  
greatly burdened soul-winning Christians.

Add your name if you wish.  
Be sure to share the names of those  
for whom you are burdened  
with other praying Christians.

But prayer, like faith, demands work.  
Prayer-even united prayer-does not  
take the place of direct witnessing.

Now-as God leads, you must go. So here  
in the place of prayer, find your  
burden-your direction-and infusion  
with power to do the will of God!

## V. THANK GOD

For your cleansing,  
For His forgiveness.  
For the Holy Spirit.  
For REVIVAL!  
For VICTORY!  
For the opportunities  
He will give you  
to witness before this  
revival meeting is over.

Expect great things  
from God.

Do not fear  
to go where He leads  
and give your testimony.  
FAITH IS THE VICTORY!

## How to Use This Sweet Hour of Prayer Spiritual Preparation Guide

1. Set a specific time and a quiet place to work through **Sweet Hour of Prayer**.
2. Use **Sweet Hour of Prayer** along with your Bible. Read through the pages. Remember you Are in the presence of God.
3. Answer the questions and follow the suggestions.
4. It will take about one hour to read and pray through the guide.
5. **DON'T TAKE ANY SHORTCUTS!** It is more meaningful to put forth the effort and have the privacy needed to examine yourself.
6. One approach for using **Sweet Hour of Prayer** is to use it during the Sunday School hour the week prior to the revival meeting.
7. Another approach is to use **Sweet Hour of Prayer** during the prayer meeting hour on Wednesday night prior to the revival meeting.

We are praying for revival.  
If we are to have revival-  
Revival must begin in **me**.

I must be willing  
to lay  
my life,  
my time,  
my talents,  
my money-  
all that I am, and  
all that I have  
on God's altar.

The power of the Holy Spirit  
is the only sufficient power.

God is able

to forgive every sin,  
to cleanse every stain,  
to save any sinner,  
to overcome all doubts,  
to quieten every fear,  
to meet every need,  
to use His people in soul-winning,  
to bless His people with revival,  
to give **VICTORY**.

**Revival comes** from God  
**to** is people.

### MY PRAYER LIST

Name	Spiritual Condition
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Love and concern wrote these names.

These are people to pray for-  
not to talk about!

You are invited to join others who are  
concerned about these.  
Some are unsaved; some are unconcerned.  
Some are unenlisted; some are backslidden.

You are giving yourself  
to the Lord Jesus who loves you!  
Jesus who knows you-  
your past, your future,  
all about you.  
His way is best for you.

Pray for your family-  
Ask God's help in your home.

Pray for your church-  
your pastors, other leaders.  
Pray for the weak, sinning members.

Pray for unity and love  
in the church. Be sure  
you are a helper-  
not a problem.

Pray for all the workers  
in the revival-  
the evangelist,  
the visitation teams,  
the music minister,  
the musician,  
the choir,  
the ushers.

Pray for unenlisted  
or backslidden Christians.

Pray for the unsaved.

Ask God to burden you  
for individuals-  
and use you to reach them.

Bible study,  
praise,  
prayer,  
soul-searching,  
confession of sin,  
repentance  
emptying of self-

These make ready for revival-  
for filling with the  
Holy Spirit.

Am I willing to be filled  
with the Holy Spirit?

Have I faith enough just to  
let God do with me as He wills?

## **I. WORSHIP**

Suggested Bible readings:

Psalm 95 and 96  
John 4:24  
Isaiah 6:1-8

## **II. PRAISE**

Thank Him for blessings  
you have received:

Psalm 9:11  
Psalm 67:3  
Hebrews 13:15

Four-fold reason for praise:  
I Peter 2:9

### III. CONFESS

Read: Proverbs 28:13  
I John 1: 8-9  
Psalm 51: 1-16

Three kinds of sin which  
we must confess:

1. **Private** – sins against God alone,  
Must be confessed to God alone.
2. **Personal** – sins against others.  
There can be no peace until  
these sins are confessed to  
God.

**As God leads**, you may have to confess to the person  
wronged. You must make an effort to restore disturbed  
fellowship.

3. **Public** – sins against the  
Church, the body of Christ,  
such as

Gossip-tale bearing  
Neglect of duty  
Wrongful attitudes

You can name many others.

If these sins are not confessed,  
you cannot be filled  
with the Holy Spirit.

REMEMBER NOW THE  
MARVELOUS GRACE OF GOD.

He has promised  
to forgive every sin  
confessed to Him!

Isaiah 1:8; 44: 21-22  
Hebrews 8:12; 10:17  
I John 1: 7-9

DO NOT DESPAIR  
GOD LOVES YOU!

### IV. PRAY

For yourself,  
for cleansing,  
for strength-and for  
courage to forsake  
the sins confessed.

Ask God to fill you  
with the Holy Spirit.

Trust Him-fear not!

Surrender all-  
Self, will, ambition,  
Desires, plans, hopes,  
times, talents, all.  
Put all in His hand.

Did I meet every  
situation today as  
a Christian should?

Have I honestly tried  
to be a good witness  
for Christ today?

Have I worried  
or been over-anxious  
about things  
over which I have no control?

Did I fret?

Did I complain?

Was I guilty of  
the sin of unbelief?

Do I really believe in  
the power of God to:

Cleanse **any** sinner?

Change **any** life?

Take care of **any**  
situation?

Guide **me** in my  
decisions?

There must be:

1. cleansing...then filling
2. preparing...then interceding
3. yielding...then receiving
4. asking...then praising
5. empowering...then witnessing

Here-alone with God:

1. Take time to examine  
your own heart.
2. Turn the pages slowly.
3. Consider each question.
4. Let God guide you.
5. Confess every sin and  
Ask God's forgiveness.

REMEMBER:

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful  
and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse  
us from all unrighteousness.”  
(I John 1:9)

“If we say we have no sin, we  
deceive ourselves, and the truth  
is not in us.”  
(I John 1:8)

I AM HERE – ALONE WITH GOD!

Am I really concerned  
about revival?

Am I willing  
to pay the price?

Am I willing to  
do anything God  
wants me to do?

Is revival **first**  
in my plans?

Am I sinning  
the sin of  
prayerlessness?

Have I neglected the  
Word of God?

Have I forgiven  
everyone?

Is all resentment  
out of my heart?

Am I willing to  
ask forgiveness  
from anyone I have  
wronged in any way?

Is my home a  
testimony for Jesus?

Am I willing and  
ready to forgive  
any wrong against me or  
against my family?

Do I have any  
secret sin  
that I excuse,  
but should forsake?

Have I forgiven  
those who have  
talked about me?

Those who have  
talked about  
my loved ones?

Do I have a right  
attitude toward my  
fellow church members?

Do I have a right  
attitude toward leaders  
in the church?

Does my pastor **know** that  
he can count on me?

Can I  
keep a secret?

Is the reputation  
of another safe  
in my hands?

Have I been  
a tale-bearer or  
a gossip?

Have I hurt someone-  
or my church-by needless  
talk about someone's faults?

Even if it was true-  
did I glorify my Lord  
by telling it?

Did I pray for those  
involved?

Is my mind  
HONEST and CLEAN  
in the sight of God?

Are my thoughts PURE?

Am I faithful  
to my wedding vows-  
in DEED?  
In THOUGHT?

Am I impatient?

Am I irritable?

Am I  
offended easily?

Do my "hurt feelings  
keep me from serving  
God?

Do I get angry?

Do I bear grudges?

Do I "blow up"?

Do I "swell up"  
with resentment?

Do I have enmity  
toward anyone?

Am I willing-here  
and now-to ask God  
to help me put it out  
of my heart?

Matthew 6:12-15 and  
18: 21-35 Luke 6: 27-37

Have I, in any way,  
been dishonest  
with God?

Have I been dishonest  
with my church?

Have I broken any  
promise or pledge  
made to God  
or to His church?

Since my emergency or  
crisis is past, have I kept  
the promises I made  
in prayer?

Am I dishonest  
with others?

Do I try to leave  
a wrong impression  
if I can do it without  
really telling a lie?

What about  
covetousness?

Am I too concerned  
about **things**?

Have I sought material  
Blessings more than  
**spiritual** blessings?

Is there anything  
in my life that I  
would be unwilling  
to give up for Christ?

Do I deny myself  
daily  
to follow Jesus?

Have I paid all  
my debts to others?

Do I have anything  
in my possession  
that does not  
**RIGHTLY**  
belong to me?

Do I have any habit  
which I should forsake?

Have I asked  
God's help?

Is there jealousy  
in my heart?

Do I have sinful  
pride in my heart?

Have I wronged  
anyone and failed to  
make restitution?