

Seeking Him

December 2024

Clear Conscience

Throughout the last several months we've been focusing on our relationship with God--our vertical relationship. We've been covering things like humility and honesty and repentance. But now we shift and begin talking about our relationship with people--our horizontal relationships.

We've all had a guilty conscience. We've said or done things that later accuse us and give us unrest in our spirit--sometimes for years! We actively serve and outwardly do the "right" things. But behind closed doors (or the inner recesses of our hearts), we have unconfessed sin. Or maybe we've developed such a pattern of sin and rebellion that it no longer bothers us when we choose sin. Our conscience is seared or no longer sensitive and responsive to the Holy Spirit's conviction. But when our conscience is clear--clean---we rest, knowing there's nothing between us and another.

Acts 24:16 says, "I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man."

What does this look like? It's diligently and vigilantly striving to let nothing fester and go unchecked between us and God (vertical) and us and man (horizontal).

Psalm 32:3 talks about unconfessed sin in our lives and says, "when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long." When we hide our sin, when we fail to bring it into the light, it not only wreaks havoc in our relationships, but it has physical and emotional ramifications on our bodies.

So we need to deal with that conscience issue by bringing it into the light, humbling ourselves, and asking forgiveness from God and anyone else that we may have sinned against. Jesus says to us in Matthew 5:23-24:

So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

In Luke 15:21 when the prodigal son returned to his dad, his first words were, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you." Did you catch that? Vertical first (God), then the horizontal (man).

So do you have a clear conscience? Ask God to search your heart and reveal what you need to address. And then act upon it. Go to those people you've wronged and seek their forgiveness.

1 John 1:7 tells us that "the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin." Jesus paid our sin debt, and it's only by His blood that we're made clean, sisters.

If you have work to do, you're not alone. God's grace is sufficient. He calls us to obedience. May we be women who have a clear conscience--both vertically and horizontally.

So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.

Acts 24:16

**"I have to make an effort to keep my conscience so sensitive that I can live without any offense toward anyone."
~ Oswald Chambers**

Personalize & Pray These Scriptures

Matthew 5:23-24

So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Ephesians 2:12-16

remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 'But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

1 John 1:7-9

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 all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Follow us on Facebook!

Did you know Sheboygan eFree Women's Ministries has a Facebook page which offers daily encouragement in your walk with Jesus? Connect with other women, ask for prayer, and share what God is doing in your life. We need each other!



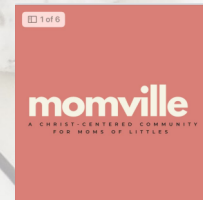
Arise Café Saturday, January 4 8am in the Commons

We look forward to beginning a new year in worshipping the Lord and enjoying sweet fellowship together! Join us for our next Arise Café as we hear testimonies of God's faithfulness from Heidi Lucas and Adrian Hendrikse. Your heart will be blessed and encouraged!

Bring a friend and a breakfast dish!

A Prayer & Heart Response for December

Father God, thank You for the love, grace, and forgiveness You poured out at the cross. I long to have a clear conscience in all my relationships. Show me the things I need to address, the things I need to confess and make right. With Your help and strength, I can do exactly what You've called me to do in humbling myself, apologizing, and seeking forgiveness.



Momville is a Christ-centered community for moms of littles. Meeting in the Commons at 9:30am on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the

month, this group of moms fosters community, provides rest and encouragement, and connects the hope-filled message of the gospel to everyday moments. Preschool childcare is provided.



Women's Ministries

"Women's Ministries seeks to support the church's mission and vision to multiply disciples of Jesus Christ.

Committed to God's Word as our authority, we're passionate about creating a culture in which Titus 2 relationships (older teaching younger) can thrive by providing opportunities, resources, and support for women to connect with one another and the Lord Jesus Christ."

The Women's Ministries

Leadership Team: Brenda Vinson, Chloe Seider, Nichole Tittle, Nikki MacDonald, & Theresa Amundson