

Space for God What Belongs To God



PREPARATION

• In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit •
The Lord’s light penetrates the human spirit, exposing every hidden motive.
Proverbs 20:27
Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
Psalm 139:23

WORSHIP

O nations of the world, recognize the Lord,
recognize that the Lord is glorious and strong.
Give to the Lord the glory he deserves!
Bring your offering and come into his presence.
Worship the Lord in all his holy splendor.
1 Chronicles 16:28-30

CONFESSION

“The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?”
But I, the Lord, search all hearts and examine secret motives. I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions deserve.”
Jeremiah 17:9-10

MEDITATION – Matthew 22:15-22*

Then the Pharisees met together to plot how to trap Jesus into saying something for which he could be arrested.
They sent some of their disciples, along with the supporters of Herod, to meet with him. “Teacher,” they said, “we know how honest you are. You teach the way of God truthfully. You are impartial and don’t play favorites. Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”
But Jesus knew their evil motives. “You hypocrites!” he said. “Why are you trying to trap me? Here, show me the coin used for the tax.” When they handed him a Roman coin, he asked, “Whose picture and title are stamped on it?”
“Caesar’s,” they replied.
“Well, then,” he said, “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.”
His reply amazed them, and they went away.

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY	
Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	What does the text say?
Respond	How does it relate to my life?
Rest	I welcome God’s healing and renewal.

ANCHORING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I give back to You what is Yours.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

Who did I approach simply out of love and without an ulterior motive?
In what way was I dishonest with God, others, or myself regarding my intentions?

WISDOM

“Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished.
Romans 13:1-2

I will refuse to look at anything vile and vulgar. I hate all who deal crookedly; I will have nothing to do with them. I will reject perverse ideas and stay away from every evil.
Psalm 101:3-4

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”
1 Samuel 16:7

Man sees your actions, but God your motives.”
–Thomas a Kempis

TESTIMONY *What is God saying to me?*

INTERCESSION *Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.*

BENEDICTION

If we live, it’s to honor the Lord.
And if we die, it’s to honor the Lord.
So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.
• Amen •
Romans 14:8

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY
Be still and quiet before God.
Seek the Holy Spirit’s filling and guidance.
Speak, act, and serve from a listening heart.