**Prepare the Heart for Kingdom Access (by Humility)**

(Bible Study written by Ellen Lyon)

 Have we **truly** made our temples ready for the King of Glory to have access to every part of our being? When we do, we give Him permission to come in. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, before the crucifixion, he was exemplifying humility. He could have come in on a white horse and wearing a crown on His head. But he chose one of the lowliest of creatures to ride on, to make His entrance. This is a question that I should be asking myself. Am I humble enough to recognize that I need Jesus, and everything that comes with the ‘package’ of salvation? Humility is key. Do I have a teachable spirit? Am I willing to take everything that I thought I knew, and place it before Jesus for His approval? This attitude of humility paves the way for our hearts to receive all the blessings He has for us. The blessings come with our **obedience to the full plan of salvation**.

1. Psalms 24:7-10 says “Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Glory means respect, honor and majesty.

\*When we have repented, and asked God to forgive us for walking in our own foolish ways, this begins the process. His light begins to shine on the areas of our heart that have been hidden away. He shows us areas of our lives that have been carnal in nature. We have fed the flesh in its sinful bent. He begins to show us that we no longer have to carry around the weight of guilt from our sins. The King of Glory, coming in, is the glory of the Holy Ghost! How **amazing** is that!

1. 2 Chronicles 16:9a says “The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ towards Him.”

\*Is my heart perfect towards Him? Have I asked Him to give me a heart that pleases Him? Am I willing to do what it is He asks of me, according to His Word?

Read Luke 14:26-33

1. Jesus says we need to hate certain things, and to take up our cross in order to be his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 26)
2. Jesus says that it is important to count the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, in order to be able to finish what we have started. (v. 28).

\* This is inferring our relationship with Him. I understand that once I take ahold of His hand to lead me, I must not let go! I purpose now to no longer serve my carnal nature, the law of sin and death, but serve the King of Kings!

5. Jesus says that unless we forsake **all** that we have, we cannot be His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v.33)

Read Romans 8:1-3

1. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ but after the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 1) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

The New Testament tells us that we are to lay some things aside. Read Hebrews 12:1-2

1. “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which doth so easily beset us. And let us run with patience the race that is set before us. (v. 1).
2. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

\*Sin comes from the Greek Word ‘hamartia’. Strongs Concordance says it means: sin or failure. It means: “missing the mark; hence a. guilt, sin, b. fault, failure

\*Faith comes from the Greek Word ‘pistis’. Strongs Concordance says it means: assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity. It comes from ‘peitho’ which means persuasion, i.e. credence; moral conviction, especially reliance upon Christ for salvation

Read Jeremiah17:5-10

1. The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins (of the mind), even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. (v. 9, 10)

Read Proverbs 16:1-3

1. Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shall be established. (v. 3)

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| \*What will be the consequences of preparing our heart for God to come reside in us? It will result in us allowing God access to our inner most being. **And, at the same time,** itgives us access into the most amazing life, better than we could ever imagine! **It gives us access to life instructions from the Kingdom of God! (From Galatians 5:22) The fruit of obeying Kingdom instructions includes:** **Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, & temperance** |

Prayer is talking to God about what is in my heart. Can we talk to Him right now?

Jesus, I need you to show me the things in my heart that are not of you. Jesus, please help me to prepare my heart for you to have the relationship with you that you know I need. I am clueless without you opening up my spiritual eyes to my need of you. Help me to humble myself and lay aside selfish ambitions. I need you Jesus, more than I need anything else in this world.

\* (Please use your own words, with your mouth, to continue this dialogue with the One who loves you and wants to have communion with you.)