

“Living in God’s Will on Earth”
Psalm 139:23-24

I. Search me!

Why do we believers need to pray for God to search our hearts?

John Owen says because of our old sin nature!

“It has no doors to open. It needs no engine by which to work. It lies in the mind and in the understanding. It is found in the will. It is in the inclinations of the affections. It has such intimacy in the soul. It reveals itself in anger, bitter words, unkind thoughts, criticisms, self conceit, lack of understanding, impatience, weak prayers, immoral thoughts, overt sins, and silent sins of omission.” “You need to know your weakness, if you Truly want to represent Christ on earth.”

Haggai 1:5—Consider your ways

1 Kings 8:38—Know the plague in your own heart

Jeremiah 17:9—Heart more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick, who can understand it?

1 Cor. 2:11—Who knows the thoughts of a man except the Spirit of a man which is in Him.

II. Try me, Test me

1 Peter 1:7, Heb. 4:12, 1 Thess. 2:4, Prov. 17:3, Jer. 11:20

True faith is precious, it is like gold, it will endure a trial. It will ultimately be purified by a trial. A believer is Willing to be tried by God. A believer is willing to hear The worst as well as the best of Himself from God.

III. See hurtful (wicked) way of pain in me. Spurgeon says:

“There is a way of unbelief within each of us, to which we are very prone. There is the way of vanity and pride, to which we often accustom ourselves. There is the way of selfishness in which we frequently walk. So we are asking God in our heart, in our life, any evil habit, unknown to myself, any evil way, take it from me. No matter how dear the wrong may have become. As I hate wicked in the world let me hate wicked in myself.”

2 Cor. 5:15, Rom. 14:8, James 1:21, 1 Peter 2:1, Gal. 1:13

IV. The everlasting way (obedience to His Word)

We must all of us have a way. We are journeying, we cannot abide in one stay. Since we all have a way it is

So important that it is the right one. (Wrong way is a dead end) Why does David say “lead me lead me”

1. We are needy for knowledge.

Psalm 119:11, John 14:21, Matt. 7:24-27

2. We are needy for wisdom (application of knowledge)

James 1:22, Heb. 4:12, Heb. 5:14

Finally we need to keep our mind on Him through all our trials of life.

Col. 3:1-3, Heb. 4:14-16