

How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life by Dr. Gregory Frizzell
Chapter 5 – Getting Clean Before God – The Path to Holiness – Part 2
Wednesday AM/PM – 8/30/17

5 Categories of Potential Sin

1. Sins of Thoughts and Attitudes

2. Sins of Speech

3. Relationship Sins

Relationship sins generally fall in five major areas.

- 1) *Can you think of people you may have hurt or offended in some manner?*
- 2) *Are you bitter or holding grudges against people who have offended you?*
- 3) *Are you involved in any improper relationships?*
- 4) *Do you neglect regular fellowship and meaningful service through your church?*

Hebrews 10:25 - *Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.*

Questions to think about: Are you a spectator rather than a participant in God's work? Fan or follower? Do you consistently receive but seldom give? Have you become a permanent visitor who never seems to plug in and serve God? God desires that we embrace the church and go to work!

- 5) *Are your family relationships consistent with God's Word?*
"No one who is wrong with others can be truly right with God." Improper family and church relationships affect the filling and power of God's Spirit in our lives.

God's special words to husbands and fathers – Ephesians 5:23 –
God calls the husband to be the spiritual head of the home.

Ephesians 5:25 - *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her.*
Husbands are commanded to love their wives with sacrificial love.

Ephesians 6:4 - *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*
The father is commanded to relate to his children in loving spiritual guidance, not in anger or wrath.

Questions to think about: Do you take responsibility to lead your family in devotions and prayer? Do you set a loving atmosphere of spiritual nurture and training? Do you put your wife's needs before your own? Are you guiding your children in spiritual growth and training? Do you discipline your children with consistency and love? Do you consistently talk to your children about spiritual values?

God's special word to wives – Ephesians 5:24, 33 - Her submission is the loving and willing submission seen with Christ and His church as well as her husband's sacrificial love toward her. A godly wife exhibits a beautiful spirit of humility, love and honor toward her husband. **1 Peter 3:3-4**

Questions to think about: Wives, do you ever treat your husband with dishonor and disrespect? Do you often point out his weaknesses and faults? Do you patiently forgive him and treat him kindly in spite of his shortcomings? Have you done all you can to bring your attitude in line with the pattern God has set for you in Scripture?

God's special words to parents – Matthew 18:6

Children often learn more from what their parents do than what they say.

Questions to think about: Parents, do you model excitement and joy about worshipping God? Do you consistently express love for Christ's church or a negative complaining attitude? If your children are expressing a negative attitude toward God and His church, you may need to take a serious look at our attitudes we actually model before them. Do you lovingly and consistently communicate with each other? Do you really listen when your children talk to you? Do you respond with understanding or anger?

God's special words to children and youth – Ephesians 6:1-3 –

4. Sins of Commission and Transgression

This involves doing something wrong or breaking God's laws.

5. Sins of Omission

These sins are the failure to obey Christ's commands or conform our character to His image. **James 4:17.**

The point is not to go through all of these categories meticulously every time we pray. Remember this is a personal relationship with God, not a formula.