

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Here is a sample of a list of sins from a solemn assembly that was compiled by the preparatory team who had met in prayer for weeks before the larger gathering. You will want to go through the same preparatory process to compile your own list, but this one, taken and added to from HeartRest is a helpful start to you in compiling your own list for a bulletin insert. You will want to add printed directions regarding what you want people to do with this list during your solemn assembly.

SINS AGAINST OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR LORD

Pride, self-satisfaction, self-righteousness, hard-heartedness
Worship: more performance than true devotion
Controlled by fear and anxiety rather than by faith
Holding back our money in fear of not having enough in the future
Too little time spent one-on-one with my Lord
Neglect of prayer, the Word, spiritual direction
Idolatry—gaining meaning from things instead of from God
Hypocrisy, in-authenticity
Joyless labor in God's house instead of joyful work by His side
Allowing the world to change us instead of our changing the world
Not giving God first consideration in all decisions
Slowness to acknowledge and confess my sins...

SINS AGAINST OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH EACH OTHER

Lack of love for each other; little true connection between us
Demanding total agreement; allowing others to be demonized for holding different opinions
Judgmental spirit, lack of grace, rigidity, being overly demanding
Talking more than listening
Gossiping
Complaining
Not taking in what the other is saying and weighing it in Holy Spirit and instead reacting immediately against it
Leaders not bringing prophetic challenges to people ...

SINS AGAINST OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THOSE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

Lack of sacrificial service to the poor and oppressed
Separating ourselves from the world so that we don't see social problems that keep people oppressed and captive
Weak engagement with those who set social policies
Lack of passion for those who don't know Jesus; failure to build bridges of relationships through service
Failure to call others to live in accord with God's sovereign rule as characterized by love and justice and shalom for all
Lack of vision for the church in our city/region
Weakness in intercessory prayer for others and our ministries
Lack of equal respect for all cultures, and between each
Consumer mentality, allowing our possessions to own us instead of investing in Kingdom work
Laziness - "Let someone else do it."

Failure to live as good stewards of the earth and all God has provided for us to share with one another

Acceptance of and acquiescence to social sins that enslave and hurt others—pornography, slave labor practices, domestic violence, genocide, war, limiting access to food, housing, healthcare, etc.

Refusing to blow the whistle on social and personal sin so that others may know God's love for all ...

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS AND CONFESSION