Seeking Him #8 First Free Moline – February 26, 2023 CLEAR CONSCIENCE: The Freedom of a Blameless Heart Acts 24:16

A clear conscience = "the inner knowledge that there is no wrong I've done to God or others that I have not sought, as far as lies within me, to make right."

- 1. We must maintain a clear conscience before _____
 - □ <u>H</u> -I John 1:6&8
 - □ <u>S</u> I John 1:9
 - □ <u>C</u> I Thessalonians 5:16-23; Eph.5:18
 - <u>C</u> Psalm 139:23-24
- 2. We must maintain a clear conscience before _____
 - Matthew 5:23-24
 - Romans 12:18
 - Why is this so important?
- Because God wants to life the load of _____ &
- Because you can't _____ with God if you're not right
 with His children
- Because God wants to illustrate the realities of His new kingdom
- Because this reality magnifies God's ______

From 10:30-11:30 a.m. there are Adult Bible Classes and Sunday School Classes for children. II Peter 3:18 – "grow in grace & knowledge of our Lord & Savior"

Gaining a Clear Conscience – Acts 24:16 [NLT] I always try to maintain a clear conscience before God and all people.

10 Commonly Asked Questions

1. Q: With whom should I clear my conscience?

A: My confession should be as public, or private, as my sin.

2. Q: What should I say?

A: Use the language of the Bible. The Prodigal said, "I have sinned again heaven and in your sight." (Luke 15²¹) Or simply, "I have wronged you by ______, will you forgive me?"

3. Q: What if it happened a long time ago?

A: Time does not heal nor minimize the impact of what was experienced.

4. Q: What if I can't locate them?

A: Ask God to help you find them.

5. Q: What if they've died?

A: Make your confession to God. It may help to admit your confession to a godly friend - James 5^{16}

6. Q: What if it's just a 'small thing'?

A: Understand the enemy's tactics—Satan would have you believe that offenses are inconsequential. A small stone in the shoe can cripple a soldier.

7. Q: What if it costs money?

A: The cost of a guilty conscience is even more expensive. Cf. Zacchaeus – Luke 19^{1-10}

8. Q: What if they won't forgive me?

A: That's their responsibility, not yours. It may be difficult for others to forgive you immediately...leave it in God's hands.

9. Q: What if someone has something against me that's not legitimate?

A: It's still your responsibility to seek reconciliation. Matthew 5^{23-24}

10. Q: Can't I do this later?

A: Delayed obedience is no obedience at all.