

August 16

TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY & MEDITATION

KEY IDEAS: Do I realize that I can't be close to the Lord if I am harboring unconfessed sin? Do I see myself as God sees me, as one He desires to be free from all guilt and shame? Have I asked the Holy Spirit to search my heart, and have I spent time allowing Him to point out any inconsistencies and evil in my life?

1 **God has always been near His people** — *Deuteronomy 4:7* For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

In the past God was near, but how is it more helpful since He lives in me?

What examples of the Lord's closeness and friendship can I praise Him for?

2 **I am granted access to God since I have been cleansed from all my sin** — *Hebrews 10:22* Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

How am I using the access that I have to God to get close or am I coasting?

Why does the devil want me to ignore sins like lust, swearing, avarice, etc?

3 **I am to cleanse my hands from doing evil and purify my heart** — *James 4:8* Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

What sins did I commit in the past that I am ashamed of now?

To what unconfessed sins am I clinging? What is keeping me from repenting?

Spirit of Wisdom, how do you want to apply these verses in my life today?

OPTIONAL BIBLE READINGS

Morning: Romans 15:14-33

Evening: Psalms 94, 95, 96