I. Six Month Sabbatical
   A. After 5-1/2 months direction received
      1. Intercessory ministry
      2. Based in Jerusalem
   B. Why did we have to wait?
      1. God is sovereign
      2. God dealt with barriers in us through:
         a. Confession
         b. Repentance
         c. Self-humbling: the key
            Humility is something you do
      3. The great barrier is pride

II. Ways To Remove The Barrier Of Pride
   A. Confess our sins (1 John 1:9; Prov. 28:13)
      1. God only forgives what we confess
         a. If we do not confess our sins, they continue to be reckoned against us
         b. Anything not straight is crooked; anything not righteous is sin (1 John 5:17)
         c. Satan brings guilt, but the Holy Spirit conviction
      2. Unconfessed sins become barriers
   B. Confess to one another (James 5:16)
      Especially husband and wife
   C. Submit to God’s dealings (1 Peter 5:6)
      1. Humble yourself
      2. Don’t complain or murmur
      3. Israel in the desert failed this test (Deut. 8:2–3)
      4. God visits us every morning and tests us every moment (Job 7:17–18)
   D. Serve and wait (1 Thess. 1:9–10)
      Waiting is:
      1. A mark of faith
      2. An acknowledgment of dependence
   E. Preparing a way for God’s glory (Is. 40:3–5)
      1. Valleys be exalted
         Valleys: modesty, chastity, self-effacement, willingness to serve, to be in background
      2. Mountains made low
         Mountains: self-glorification, self-exaltation, self-promotion
      3. Crooked made straight
         Crooked: dishonest dealings with money, e.g. income tax returns
      4. Rough made smooth
         Rough: egoism, anger, argumentativeness, self-justification

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