

# Confession of Sin

## Reminders For This Series:

1. Sin is a disease that all people share. However, the Bible tells us how to properly deal with our sin. David is an example of that!
2. After we have sinned and processed it appropriately, life will never be the same, but it can be better!

## Psalm 51:2-3

*“Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.”*  
- Psalm 51:2,3

**This Series**  
Confronting Sin  
Consequences of Sin  
Confessing Sin  
Continuing After Sin

## Confession Is...

1. To acknowledge sin and guilt in light of God’s revelation.
2. To say the same thing about sin God does (i.e., to agree with God).

A lack of confession:

- Produces worship that is despised by God.
- Invites the discipline of God.

*“When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.”*  
- Psalm 32:3,4

## Confession...

1. Restores a right view of God. (v. 1)
  - True confession appeals to God for His mercy.  
*Do you think you deserve to be pardoned?*
  - True confession asks God to act according to His character – not His judgment and justice, but rather His loving kindness and mercy.  
*Am I looking for forgiveness so I can feel better or for God’s glory?*
2. Invites God to see our sin. (v. 2-5)
  - Asks God for cleansing.
  - Understands the seriousness of our sinful nature.
  - Confesses the entirety of sin.

*C.H. Spurgeon - “When we deal seriously with our sin, God will deal gently with us.”*

3. Trusts in God for victory over sin. (vs. 6-7)
  - When God makes us clean we are thoroughly clean.
  - We cannot be cleansed without confession. (1 John 1:9)
  - David does not ask for forgiveness, he asks for cleansing!  
*C.H. Spurgeon - “The hypocrite is content if his garments be washed; but the true suppliant cries, ‘Wash me!’”*
4. Allows God to heal the brokenness of our relationship with Him. (vs. 8-12)
  - David asks God to do and give what only God can do and give.
    - a. Create – a pure heart
    - b. Renew – a right spirit
    - c. Maintain – the presence of the Holy Spirit
    - d. Restore – the joy of salvation
    - e. Grant – a willing heart
5. Gives us the wisdom to help others. (vs. 13-15)
  - Allows others to learn from our mistakes
  - Allows us to testify to the great mercy God has shown us!
6. Reveals God’s heart (what He really wants). (vs. 16-17)
7. Recognizes our sin has hurt more than just us. (vs. 18-19)
  - Bless the “nation” my sin has hurt.

## Remember

Sin costs us more, does more damage, and lasts longer than we could ever imagine.

## Conclusion...

Confession has four elements:

- “God have mercy!” - Do you think you deserve to be forgiven?
- “God make me right.” - Do you understand the enormity of your sinful condition?
- “God make us right!” - Do you know how your sin has strained your relationship with God?
- “God make me right with others!” - Do you know how your sin has strained your relationship with others?

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- Invites the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

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“God make me right with \_\_\_\_\_!” - Do you know how your sin has strained your relationship with others?

## For Further Discussion

# Confession of Sin

### Let's Review

#### What Do We Learn About Confession?

1. It restores a right view of God.
2. It invites God to see my sin.
3. It trusts in God for victory over sin.
4. It allows God to heal the brokenness of my relationship with Him.
5. It reveals God's heart (what He really wants).
6. It recognizes my sin has hurt more than just me.

#### Consider and Discuss the Following:

1. What do the following passages tell us about confession?  
*Matthew 3:5-6; Acts 19:13-20; James 6:16; 1 John 1:8-10*
2. Why is confessing sin, both to God and to others, so difficult for us to do?
3. Is it better to confess sin quickly and openly or try and keep it hidden as long as possible? Why? Which one do you tend to do most often?
4. In Psalm 51 David asks God for cleansing. What do the following verses say about what happens to us when God cleanses us from sin? - *Hebrews 10:22 and 9:14*
5. Do you have any unresolved sin with God or others? If so, how will you go about making things right with those whom your sin has hurt?

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