

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH
NEW MEMBER LESSON #5 – CONFESSION



Introduction

After she looked in the trash can in her kitchen a mother shouted, “All of you get in here,” two of the three children ran in quickly the third child moved slowly. Once they were all assembled the mother asked, “Who broke my glass bowl and put it in the trash?” Two children shouted without hesitation, “Jean did it”. The mother said, “Jean is that true”, Jean slowly with much hesitation replied, “Yes”

Lesson

This lesson will focus on Confession. Confession is admitting what I did or didn't do. As we can see in the example above it is very easy to say what someone else did, to throw someone else under the bus, or to be a tattletale on someone else. Yet it was difficult for Jean and for us to admit our sins and wrong doings. In this lesson we will discuss Who, Why, What, When, and where we should confess our sins to God.

Who Should Confess Their Sins To God?

The Bible states in Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” That means that each and every one of us has done something wrong usually on a daily basis. Sometimes we are aware of our wrong doings and sometimes we are unaware. In any event, all of us will need to confess our sins daily.

Why Should We Confess Our Sins To God?

When we sin, a barrier or break in our relationship is created between us and the Lord, which interrupts our fellowship with Him. This is why we need to confess our sins. When we confess our sins, we are forgiven, the barrier is removed and the break in our relationship and our fellowship with the Lord is restored. We shouldn't ignore our sins or try to cover them up. Proverbs 28:13 tells us, “He who covers his transgressions will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.” 1 John 1:9: tell us “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

What Should We Confess To God?

First, we must confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. **Matthew 10:32** states “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.” This confession is so important because **Matthew 10:33** states “Whosoever therefore shall deny me before men, him will I deny also before my Father which is in heaven.”

Once must acknowledge with their own mouth a personal relationship with Jesus. Romans 10:9 tell us with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Think of confession as announcing to the world your personal relationship with the Lord.

Secondly, we must confess our sins in order to be forgiven and saved. (1 John 1:9, Romans 10:9-10) Whenever we speak with God alone in private, the communication should be detailed and intimate showing him we have nothing to hide. We are sharing ourselves with someone who cares more about us than anyone else cares. As we confess our sins, in detail, we are acknowledging that God alone knows our struggles, he is able to forgive us and he has the power to transform us into becoming more like Him.

When Should We Confess Our Sin?

We cannot afford to allow sin and anger to settle within us. The Bible tells us to handle this quick, don't let the sun go down on your wrath. A delay may result in further harm being committed. Therefore, we should confess our sin as often as we feel it necessary. That usually includes daily and all through the day because we have said something or done something not pleasing to God. The Holy Spirit will let us know when our actions are not pleasing to the Lord. Whisper a prayer right then to repent and move on. If we delay, the enemy will use that against us at the next opportunity.

Where Should We Confess Our Sins To God?

We should confess our sins anywhere we can be real with God. Being real with God is not "If I committed a sin today, please forgive me." Being real with God is stating unequivocally what you did wrong. Set aside time daily to reflect and communicate with God in a quiet setting. Reflect on your day; ask God how you could have handled those perplexing situations better.

Review

1. **What is the definition of confession?**
2. **Why is it necessary to confess our sins?**
3. **In your own words what does Matthew 10:32, 33 mean?**
4. **Is there a special time or place to confess our sins?**
5. **What are the benefits of confessing our sins?**

Name

Date