

If my people pray

Confession – 1 John 1:9 Message Reflection Guide

Conversation Starter

How have you seen the effects of sin negatively impact your relationship with God or others?

Getting Into The Scriptures

Read aloud 1 John 1:9.

Pastor Jason said “Confession is agreeing with God that we have sin and it must be fought and killed.” Why do you feel it is important to fight and kill the sin in your life?

Jesus paid our debt in full once and for all. When you think about Jesus death on the cross what emotions come to mind? Is it easy or difficult for you to believe all your sins are and can be forgiven? Why do you feel that way?

Accept the free gift of forgiveness. Is there anyone that you need to forgive based on how much God has forgiven you of in Christ?

Wage war against sin by mans of confession. Why is admitting our sins, failures and faults so difficult? How/when do you find yourself hiding from God? What would it look like to live more open before God?

Making It Real

How can you remind yourself to regularly search your heart for sin and take time to confess before God? How do you think that would change your relationship with God?

Preparing for a Week of Fasting and Prayer: Oct 04 - 10

To kick off this special week, our District Superintendent Nate Howard and his wife Sharon will be preaching in both services on the biblical model for fasting.

What is fasting? In a very simple way fasting is redirecting your focus from something that is **earthly** to something that is **eternal**. For example you could fast eating breakfast for the week, instead of eating during that time you would spend time praying. It does not have to be food related. You could fast watching TV for the week and redirect your attention to reading God’s word and praying. **Fasting replaces an earthly hunger which feeds us physically with an eternal hunger that feeds us spiritually.**

It is my hope that all of us as a church body will fast in some and through this fast we will experience the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in new and refreshing ways. I believe as we seek God together through fasting and prayer we will align our fellowship with His power, presence and voice.

In preparation for this week of fasting and prayer I would ask that each of you seek God as to what He would have you fast during this time. **In your community group share what you will be fasting and what spiritual discipline (prayer, reading the bible, worship, silence, journaling etc...) you will focus on.** The purpose of sharing this is for accountability.