

These questions are for the September 14, 2025, message, "Coming clean: confession," from the series entitled, "Seeking Him." Please read the sermon passage (Ex 32:1-34:7) out loud.

Passage Outline

Confession is saying the "same word" about my sin that God says.

1. Warning: warnings about not confessing our sin (32:7-14).
 - a. When I will not confess my sin to God, I may remain exposed to his wrath.
 - b. I will distance myself from the only source of atonement (32:30).
 - c. I will distance myself from the safety of God's presence (33:3).
 - d. I will distance myself from the blessing of God's goodness (33:18-19).
2. Word: the tension of confessing our sin (32:30-35; 1 John 1:1-9).
 - a. Why I don't confess:
 - i. I think I have hidden my sins from God, or that they are minor.
 - ii. I don't know how to fix it, or I know that I cannot fix it.
 - iii. I don't want to disappoint or anger God (or others).
 - b. When I don't confess:
 - i. I serve another master (Matt 6:24), and distance myself further from God.
 - ii. I begin to compromise in more and deeper ways.
 - iii. I get blinded, deaf and weaker.
3. Wonder: God's mercy in Jesus Christ (1 John 1:9).
 - a. When I come clean and confess, God forgives and cleanses me. Every time.
 - b. God removes the burden of own sin and failure, in Jesus Christ.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We have been saying that revival is a supernatural movement of God that causes us to treasure the gifts of God's presence: if we confess, we remain close, protected and strong. Review the four warnings under #1. Is there any way which you have accepted or chosen to be distanced from God?
2. Based on #2, above: Note the "Why I don't confess" section. Which of those excuses resonate with your unwillingness to confess?
3. Based on #2, above: Note the "When I don't confess" section. Which of those consequences have you experienced?
4. Based on #3, above: Unconfessed sin causes distance and pride; confessed sin brings about forgiveness and cleansing through Jesus Christ. In humility we "say the same word" about our sin that God does and draw near to him. How does God's faithfulness in forgiving and cleansing humble you? How does it strengthen you?