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# CONFESS YOUR SINS

JAMES 5:16



# DEFINING CONFESSION

- Confession is acknowledgment or agreement (Acts 23:8; Lk. 22:6).
- It is more frequently in relation to Christ than to sin (Matt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10).
- The idea is that you are agreeing and acknowledging what others already know (Matt. 18:15; 1 Jn. 1:9).

# THE GOALS OF CONFESSION

- The goal of confession is forgiveness (1 Jn. 1:9).
- It is about relationship reconciliation (Matt. 18:15-20; 5:23-24).
- It is accompanied by a commitment to change (Lk. 17:3-4).
- We also confess so as to receive help and comfort (Jas. 5:16).



# PUBLIC CONFESSION

- Ceremonial confession is not Biblical.
- “Coming forward” is a tradition of men.
- We have no desire to make a sin any more public than it already is (Matt. 18:15-20).
- I want to address my sin as publicly as I committed it.