

**Lent—Confess
Study Questions
Psalm 51:2-5; 1 John 1:9; James 5:16**

Warm-up

1) Without getting into specifics about the offense, describe how someone's confession affected you and your relationship with that person.

A little deeper

2) [Psalm 51:2-3] What are some different ways we are made aware of (or reminded of) our sins and transgressions?

3) [Psalm 5:4-5] How is it that every sin is an offense against God (even if He doesn't seem to be directly involved)? How are we sinful even from birth?

4) [1 John 1:9] Through Jesus, God has given us a way to find forgiveness and purification. **Why can it be so hard to confess and seek forgiveness? What are some ways in which we minimize or deny our sins, such that we don't think we need to confess them?**

5) [James 5:16] Why is it important to confess our sins to another person, not just in prayer to God? What are helpful responses when someone confesses their sin to you? What are some responses that are not so helpful?

Bringing it home

6) [Luke 18:9-14] In this parable, where would you say you find yourself: more like the Pharisee or the tax collector? ...Or like someone else (perhaps not even in the temple)?

7) Is there an area you're having trouble agreeing with God on your brokenness?

8) What would help you to better recognize God's truth and your relationship to it? Who might you involve to help keep you accountable?

9) [Matthew 11:28-30] How do you view God when it comes to confessing your sins to Him? How does your view compare with these words of Jesus that offer rest?