

LORD TEACH ME TO PRAY!

April 29, 2020

SESSION FIVE: CONFESSING OUR SINS WHEN WE PRAY

 Confessing our sins is a key part of prayer.

We All Sin 1 John 1:8 This verse and context is written to Christians. As a Christian we have two natures now. We still have a sinful nature, and we now have a godly nature.

The word sin in verse is describing our sin nature, and the principle of sin and sinning. We sin by missing the true scope and goal for our lives.

If you doubt you still sin Christian, ask your spouse! Or someone who knows you well.

v.9 (sins) sins is plural. V.10 WOW! The word sin here means to miss the mark.

In the New Testament, there are five different Greek words to describe sin. Sin is described as unbelief, breaking God's law, unrighteous, a desire for other things, and missing the mark.

Yes, we all sin. Non-Christians sin, and so do Christians

We Need To Confess **Our Sins To God**

Verses 8 and 9. 2:1

For the Christian, this is not about salvation/relationship, but about fellowship with God.

Matthew 6:12

(2)

How Do We Confess Our Sins To Christ?

v.9 The word _____ confess _____ is made up of two Greek words. These words mean “same” and “to say.” To confess is to say the same thing about our sins.

I say the same things about my sins that God does. SO, I say I have sinned. I claim responsibility for it. I own it. I get specific and completely real and honest.

We voice this with a desire to _____ repent _____ and turn from our sins.

For example, confession is like this: “God, I have sinned. I lost my temper at that person. God I said things I should not have said. God I did not tell the whole truth. I have been lazy and negligent. God I exhibited pride and arrogance towards others.”

A _____ relationship _____ and its ongoing fellowship must be built on honesty and transparency. This is deeply and ultimately true with you and Jesus.

To Not Confess Our Sins Renders Our Prayer Life Dead

v.9 “If” is a conditional preposition. “If” we do this we receive God’s forgiveness and cleansing as a believer. “If” we do not, we will not!

Psalm 66:18 Isaiah 59:1-2 WOW!

We MUST approach prayer on _____ God’s _____ terms!

I cannot live as I want, pray as I want, and expect to please God and to have a true prayer life.

I cannot hold on to or _____ deny _____ my sins, and expect God to be a heavenly Santa Clause who will just give me my request.

To not confess our sins honestly and specifically, renders our prayer life dead.

(3)

Make Confessing Of Your Sins A First And Key Part Of Your Prayer Life

v.9 The verbiage here is this is a continually and ongoing thing.

If you need some help here, ask God to show you your sins, and then put your seatbelt on. He will show you!

Of course we should confess our sins throughout the day, and as we sin.

Also, make this a first part of your daily prayer time.

Praise God, forgive others, and then confess your sins to God

v.9 Great things happen when we do this! Forgive means to send away, to dismiss. God removes the debit we owe Him when we truly confess.

God cleanses us. Cleanses means to free us from filth and pollution.

Confession of sin is tough, and humbling. BUT, it is so freeing. After I do this, I feel a weight is lifted off of me. I do sense and realize the openness I have with God when I pray.

This opens the ears of God to our prayers!

Please take 1 John 1:8-10 very seriously. These are words to Christians that cannot be ignored. And I promise you it will change your life and prayer life if you will make real and consistent confessions of your sins a vital part of your life!