

TAKING IT HOME:

Father, Your Word declares that if I ask for forgiveness, You will forgive me and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Help me to believe; help me to receive my forgiveness for past and present sins. Help me to forgive myself. I confess Jesus as my Lord and believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead, and I am saved. Amen

MY WEEKLY PRAYER PAGE:

My group's prayer requests:

LIFE GROUP SERMON GUIDE

For the week of October 27, 2019

ROOTED: PART 7 - "CONFESSION"

Pastor Lambert Sikkema

John 20:19-23

KEY CONCEPT FOR SERVICE: The discipline of "Confession" brings an end to pretense. Honesty leads to confession, and confession leads to change.

THE BENEFIT OF "CONFESSING"

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

HOW TO MAKE A "GOOD-CONFESSION"

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

HOW TO HEAR FROM A BROTHER/SISTER IN THE LORD

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

LIFE GROUP TIPS ON GROUP PRAYER

Prayer is an important part of being in a Life Group, but it can also be intimidating. We find that group prayer goes better when we don't require everyone to pray and we keep our prayers short and simple.

Pi²
PRAY • INVEST • INVITE

MY Pi² LIST

P
PRAY
PRAY DAILY FOR THOSE ON YOUR P² LIST, PROVIDENTIAL MOMENTS, AND FOR OPPORTUNITIES, BOLDNESS, AND CLARITY.

i
INVEST
INVEST AND BUILD AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS AND REAL FRIENDSHIPS WITH THOSE ON YOUR LIST.

i
INVITE
INVITE THEM TO THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF COMMITMENT (ATTEND CHURCH, LIFE GROUP, GO OUT FOR COFFEE, TRUST IN CHRIST).

FAMILY MEMBER _____
FRIEND _____
CO-WORKER/CLASSMATE _____
NEIGHBOR _____

Life Group Homework

For the week of October 27, 2019

QUICK REVIEW:

As you reflect on your Sermon Guide Notes for this week's message, what was one key take-away that you'd like to discuss with your group?

CONFESSION

"At the heart of God is the desire to give and to forgive." *Richard Foster*

GOD'S STORY / OUR STORY

Read: 1 Peter 2:9

After reading this passage, what does scripture tell us about confession?

Read: 1 Timothy 2:5 and James 5:13-16

Confession is a very intimate and vulnerable act, and while we understand the need for private confession we often shy away from corporate confession. Why is it important to corporately confess?

The call to confession is a call to live in honesty and truthfulness with our brothers and sisters, no matter how we have fallen. How do you feel about sharing your sinfulness with your group (or another person)? Why?

Read John 20:19-23

Social Media has allowed many of us to live a public life where we can choose what to share and what to keep private. Tell of a time when you, or someone you know, shared honestly (vulnerably) about their failure (sinfulness) in a public way. How did you respond to them?



DIGGING DEEPER

Read: John 20:19-23 (again), Matthew 26:28.

As followers of Christ, we have been given the authority to receive the confession of sin, and to forgive it in His name. Have you ever desired to share your failure (sinfulness) with another person but chose not to?

What do you think prevented you from sharing with them?

Tell of a time when you shared with another person about a difficult and personal failure (sin). How did they respond to your confession?

Where could you use Jesus' "peace" right now?

ADDITIONAL SELF-STUDY (Optional)

"The Discipline of confession brings an end to pretense. God is calling into being a Church that can openly confess its frail humanity and know the forgiving and empowering graces of Christ. Honesty leads to confession, and confession leads to change.

Spend some time this week focusing in the Word as you explore the idea of confession and forgiveness. Share with your group any takeaways you may have. If you feel comfortable, confess your sins to your group.

Sunday: The ministry of the Christian Fellowship / James 5:13-16

Monday: The need for confession and forgiveness /
Isaiah 59:1-9 & Romans 3:10-18

Tuesday: The promise of forgiveness / Jeremiah 31:34, Matthew 26:28,
Ephesians 1:7

Wednesday: The assurance of forgiveness / 1 John 1:5-10

Thursday: Jesus Christ: Savior, Mediator, and Advocate /
2 Timothy 1:8-10, 1 Timothy 2:5, 1 John 2:1

Friday: A parable of confession / Luke 15:11-24

Saturday: Authority and forgiveness / Matthew 16:19, 18:18, John 20:23

