

# Confession

January 14, 2024

Daniel 9:4-19

An outline of Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9:4-19

- 4-6** 1) Lord God, we've violated the terms of your covenant of love  
*See Deuteronomy 7:9-12*
- 7-11a** 1a) God you are righteous and we are **humiliated**  
*"What were we thinking?"*
- 11b-14** 1b) We are suffering justly and you are right to punish us  
*"This **mess** is our fault, not God's." (Dt. 28:15)*
- 15-16** 2) Lord God, you built your reputation on saving sinners  
*People like **us** ; Daniel uses plural pronouns "we/us"*
- 17-19** 3) God please act and forgive again for the sake of your Name  
*See 1 John 1:9*

## Principles of prayer from Daniel 9

- Daniel read his Bible (Daniel 9:2)
- Bible reading led Daniel to pray about God's **promises**
- The more I focus on God's character, the clearer I see my sin
- My sin does not have the final say, God **does**
- Confession does not **create** forgiveness, God does
- Even 'righteous' Daniel confessed his sins **with** the people
- Temporary **relief** (Prov. 28:13) was available in the OT
- Forgiveness in Christ is forever and free by grace through faith
- Repentant faith in Christ Jesus keeps our relationship **close**

**A**doration of God naturally moves into . . .

**C**onfession of sin moves into . . .

**T**hanksgiving for God's forgiveness moves into . . .

**S**upplication is asking from our restored relationship with God

## On Your Own (Better with Others)

1. What is your practice of private confession just between you and God? Is it daily? Weekly? Monthly? Other?
2. What is your practice of interpersonal confession between you and a trusted friend? Is it daily? Weekly? Monthly? Other?
3. What is your practice of public confession as part of a group in a church? Is it daily? Weekly? Monthly? Other?
4. READ Matthew 6:9-13. Is asking God for forgiveness the same as confessing your sins? Why or why not?
5. READ 1 Timothy 1:12-17. Paul goes back and forth between praise/adoration of Christ and confession of his sin. List below

Praise / Adoration	Confession

6. Read Psalm 32:3-5. Contrast David's experience before and after he acknowledged his sin and found relief.
7. What are some ways that our church could incorporate a time of confession into our morning worship services? Would this be a good idea? Why or why not?