

**UNDERSTANDING CONFESSION**  
**APRIL 19, 2017**

**HEBREWS 3:1 (ESV)**

The Bible teaches us that Jesus is the High Priest of our confession. Confession in the Greek means to speak the same thing. It's more than verbal agreement, it's a confession based on deep conviction of facts. It's affirming something we believe, testifying to what we know and witnessing for a truth we have embraced. Usually, when the word confession is mentioned, many think of confessing one's sin, weakness or failures. This is only one side of confession. There's another side to confession that many haven't been taught or fail to recognize. My prayer is that our study tonight will shed more light on an extremely important Bible subject.

**CONFESSING JESUS – MATTHEW 10:32-33**

1. Confessing Jesus as Lord is the very heart of the New Testament.
  - A. When one confesses his allegiance to Christ, He will acknowledge him as a true follower before the throne.
  - B. If one denies Christ, Christ will deny him before the throne. One could only imagine what that moment would be like.
2. Confession and salvation. **ROMANS 10:8-10,13**
  - A. Salvation involves what we believe and what we say. What we believe and say must be based on a deep conviction of facts, not just reciting the words of someone else.
  - B. One must believe from the heart in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. We're saved by faith, not works.
  - C. Salvation in the Greek means save, rescue, preserve, healing, and deliverance. Confession plays a big role in all of these.
3. Confession and forgiveness. **1 JOHN 1:7-9**
  - A. Confession here means to acknowledge one's guilt, and is based on a deep, inward conviction. **PSALMS 51:1-4**
  - B. David was deeply convicted of his sin, took full responsibility for what he did, and asked for forgiveness and mercy from God.
  - C. This confession involves Godly sorrow. **2 CORINTHIANS 7:8-11**
  - D. Jesus set the standard for true repentance. **REVELATION 2:4-5 (AMP)**
4. Confession and calling things that are not as though they are. **ROMANS. 4:17-21**
  - A. God's ways are much higher than ours. Frankly, what He tells us to do can seem illogical.
    - Build an Ark, a flood is coming.
    - Throw a tree into the bitter waters.
    - Walk around Jericho's walls.
    - Call things that are not as though they are.
  - B. God changed Abram and Sarai's name so they would unconsciously call things that are not as though they were.
  - C. Too often, we call things as they are, and wonder why things aren't changing for us.
    - "Houses aren't selling now" said the agent. "I call this house sold in Jesus' Name," is what I said. It sold for full price in 30 days while others still weren't sold after two years.
    - Instead of "there are no jobs to be found," we ask God to find us a job and say "I believe I receive a job" according to **MARK 11:24**.
    - Instead of "I'm not getting better," we say "I call myself recovering, in the Name of Jesus!" **MARK 16:18, 11:23**
5. Confession as a sacrifice of praise. **HEBREWS 13:15**
  - A. Instead of offering calves, we offer a praise sacrifice by confessing to His Name.