

Promises Promises

HOLDING ON TO WHAT GOD NEVER BREAKS ...



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
August 10, 2025

COME CLEAN

Pastor Dave Larson | Patterson

My confession of sin initiates God's unshakeable promise of cleansing me.

1. Confession is where my _____ begins.

"If we confess our sins..." 1 John 1:9a (NLT)

*"Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt... And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone."
Psalm 32:5 (NLT)*

"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming..." Luke 15:20 (NLT)

*"People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy."
Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)*

2. God's response is _____.

"...he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins..." 1 John 1:9b (NLT)

"The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning." Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT)

"For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin... God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus." Romans 3:25-26 (NLT)

3. God cleans me _____.

"...and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9c (NLT)

"Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow... Create in me a clean heart, O God." Psalm 51:7-10 (NLT)

"Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow." Isaiah 1:18 (NLT)

"He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit." Titus 3:5 (NLT)

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My confession of sin initiates God's unshakeable promise of cleansing me.

1. Confession is where my HEALING begins.

"If we confess our sins..." 1 John 1:9a (NLT)

"Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt... And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone." Psalm 32:5 (NLT)

"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming..." Luke 15:20 (NLT)

"People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy." Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)

2. God's response is GUARANTEED.

"...he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins..." 1 John 1:9b (NLT)

"The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning." Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT)

"For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin... God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus." Romans 3:25-26 (NLT)

3. God cleans me COMPLETELY.

"...and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9c (NLT)

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
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CONNECT

Have you ever been working on a project and gotten so dirty you wondered if you could ever get clean? How long did it take to finally wash everything off?

ENGAGE

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

GROW

1. What does it mean to you to feel “stuck” spiritually? Share a time when you felt like that. How did you navigate through it... or did you?
2. In the message, we learned that confession is where healing begins. Why do you think honesty with God is so crucial for our spiritual growth? On a scale of 1 to 10... is that easy (1) or hard (10) for you?
3. How could your group take steps to even more deeply create a culture of honesty and vulnerability together?
4. How does understanding God’s faithfulness and justice change the way you view your own mistakes and failures?
5. Read Lamentations 3:21-26. How can you remind yourself of God’s faithfulness and mercy when you feel guilty or ashamed?

LEAD (YOURSELF)

How can you incorporate a daily or weekly practice of reflection and confession into your routine? What might that look like for you?