



YOUTH INSTRUCTION CLASS

LESSON 14: CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Review

What are the two main teachings of the Bible?

What is similar and what is different about those two main teachings?

We Are Sinners

- The Bible teaches us that we are *sinners*. We have not kept God's law perfectly the way He wants us to keep it. We have disobeyed His commands. The proof that we are sinners is found in . . .

Romans 3:10 _____

As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one."

Romans 3:20b _____

Through the law we become conscious of sin.



Sins Of Commission and Omission

- When we *do something God commands us not to do*, that is a sin of *commission*. An example would be Cain killing his brother Abel (Genesis 4:8).
- When we *fail to do something God commands us to do* that is a sin of *ommission*. An example would be the men who "passed by on the other side" in Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-32).
- It is easier to see when we sin by things that we *do*. It is harder to see when we sin by things we *don't do*! Yet both are sins.
- What punishment do we deserve because of our sins?

Isaiah 59:2 (1031)

Romans 6:23 (1032)

Activity

Look at the *Table Of Duties* in your catechism (pp. 16-17). The *Table* lists God's commands to different people. Choose any five and examine how we sin both by what we do and by what we fail to do.

Occupation	SINNING BY WHAT WE DO (Commission)	SINNING BY WHAT WE DO NOT DO (Omission)

Our Response To Sin

- What are some possible reactions when we realize we have sinned against God?

Confessing Our Sins

- What does God want us to do when we have sinned against Him?

Psalm 32:5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD "— and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

James 5:16 (1029)

- When we confess our sins to God **we admit to Him that we have done wrong and ask Him to forgive our sins.**
- Before God, we confess all our sins, even the ones we do not know we have done.

Matthew 6:12 (1036)

Psalm 19:12 (1035)

What does 1 John 1:8-10 say about hiding our sins from God?

Activity



One place we confess our sins to God is in our Sunday morning church services. Begin on page 5 and/or 15 of the *Lutheran Hymnal* and locate the confessions of sins. Can you also find the *Order of Confessional Service* in the hymnal? The confessional service is a special order of worship that focuses on the confession and forgiveness of sins.

What do we ask God to do for us when we confess our sins?

How can we be sure God will forgive us our sins when we come to Him confessing our sins?

What then should we believe when we confess our sins?

1 John 1:9 (1041)

Psalm 32:5 (1042)

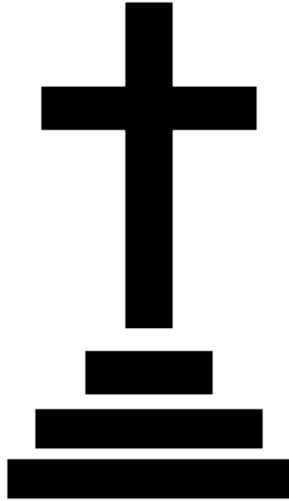
Matthew 9:2 (1043)

Why then do we willingly confess our sins?

In the church service, the announcement of forgiveness is called the *absolution*. Can you find the absolutions in the above orders of service?

The Two Parts Of Confession

- What then are the two parts of confessing our sins to God?
 - 1.
 - 2.



Summary

- The Bible and God's Law shows us that we are sinful
- God wants us to confess our sins to Him (admit to Him that we are sinful)
- We trust that God forgives our sins because of Jesus' death and resurrection



Memory Work

Memorize the first question and answer on confession (Catechism, p. 183 in the box)

Assignment

- Read all four summary questions and answers in your catechism (pp. 183-185)
- Review your memory work each day
- Find a "Confession and Absolution" hymn in the *Lutheran Hymnal*. Point out where the hymn talks about confessing our sins and where it talks about the forgiveness of sins.