

# Pray #2

## Pray Honestly

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Part of Connect Group Questions

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*Psalm 51, Psalm 32*

This week's teaching reminded us that "A life defined in Christ is shaped by confessing prayer". John reminded us of our need for and the hope of the practice of confessing to God in prayer. Confession to God in prayer then leads us to repentance and redemption from the sin in our lives when we walk in the light of Jesus.

### GETTING STARTED

Has there been a time in your life when your sin hit you between the eyes or knocked you on your butt, because you knew that you needed God's forgiveness? What was that like?

- What benefits have you experienced as a result of confessing and seeking God's forgiveness for the sin in your life? What have you learned?

### IN THE WORD

Read **Psalm 51** first, then **Psalm 32**

Why is David crying out to God, in **Psalm 51**? (Reference **2 Samuel 11**. Describe David's sin)

What does David say about what God desires from those who have sinned? Read **Psalm 51:16- 17**. Have you ever wept and been broken over the sin in your life or the life of someone you love?

What does God do when we confess our sin to him? Read **Psalm 32:5; 1 John 1:9 & 2:1-2**.

How does the world deal with sin? How is that different than how God deals with sin?

If you could spend 15 minutes in front of a room of high school students, what would you tell them about the importance of following God's word and avoiding sin in their life?

Do you need a renewed commitment to God in your life? Is sin keeping you from experiencing the joy, peace, and freedom that God desires for you?

- Answer this personally in your own mind. What sin do you need to confess to God and seek forgiveness for right now?
- How can your small group be praying for you and help you to overcome the power of sin in your life? How can your small group join you in praising God for the power of grace in your life this week?

## **MY LIFE - OUR MISSION**

This week's teaching along with *"Is God making your day?"* also asked *"Is the Spirit flowing through me?"* This Life Question is one of our CCC tools to help us measure, personally, whether or not we are consistently participating in the mission God has given us to connect people to Jesus. Some of the "self-evaluation" statements that help unpack this question are as follows:

- ✔ I know how I need Jesus daily
- ✔ I depend on the Holy Spirit, versus my own efforts, to make it through each day
- ✔ I remain confident of God's love and provision during difficult times
- ✔ I increasingly make choices with God's wisdom, rather than impulsively
- ✔ Jesus defines my life choices: friends, career, entertainment, money, food, etc
- ✔ I spend as much time listening to God as talking to Him