



Home Group Discussion Guide *April 3-9, 2022 – Confess Faults to One Another*

Devotion: Ever since that tragic moment in Eden, humanity has been deservedly wrecked. Though Christ Jesus offers salvation to all who choose to follow him, the effect of sin continues to have its way with all creation in one way or another. At times, this can cause us to experience deep despair and blind us to the hope of our faith. It can be overwhelming, isolating, and physically and spiritually damaging. What are we to do in times of crisis? To whom do we go? What can be done? Christian relationships and our relationship with God (individually and as the Church), are key to healthy and faithful living.

In this week's passage, James tells us what to do and who to do it with. Spoiler alert...it's prayer. In personal prayer, we are acknowledging God as Sovereign and Almighty. We are humbling ourselves to Someone greater than us and simultaneously admitting that we don't have the power to do what it takes to fix things.

In corporate prayer, we acknowledge a common desire for things to be made right as we look to the one and only Holy Healer. When we stand, or kneel, beside each other and commune with God together, we help the one who suffers to know they don't walk through their valley alone. We help carry their burden. Our strength becomes their strength. Joined in prayer, we connect with God and each other in a very special way—a way that brings healing, both physically and spiritually. Perhaps there is nothing that better illustrates the precious unity of the body of Christ.

Scripture – Read James 5:13-16

- Is prayer reserved solely for times of trouble? What do we acknowledge about God when we offer him prayers of praise?
- What roles do sin and confession play in suffering/healing? How does community fit in? Why is it a critical element in the healing process?
- Do you have prayer warriors on speed dial? What might be some deterrents for those who would answer “No”? What reasons could you give them to encourage them to find a group of people (or even just one friend of the faith) who would join them in prayer?

How is it with your soul?

- Where have you seen God this week?
- Where have you struggled this week?
- How can you be open to God/the Holy Spirit this week?

Prayers