



## Day 4

### *Honest Confession*

“If my people which are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14).

“Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear” (Isaiah 59:1, 2).

“Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another that you may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16).

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

“For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us draw near to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:15-16).

“As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us” (Psalms 103:12).

“True confession is always of a specific character, and acknowledges particular sins. They may be of such a nature as to be brought before God only; they may be wrongs that should be confessed to individuals who have suffered injury through them; or they may be of a public character, and should then be as publicly confessed. But all confession should be definite and to the point, acknowledging the very sins of which you are guilty” (*The Faith I Live By*, p. 128).

“Many, many confessions should never be spoken in the hearing of mortals; for the result is that which the limited judgment of finite beings does not anticipate. . . . God will be better glorified if we confess the secret, inbred corruption of the heart to Jesus alone than if we open its recesses to finite, erring man, who cannot judge righteously unless his heart is constantly imbued with the Spirit of God. . . . Do not pour into human ears the story which God alone should hear” (*Our Father Cares*, p. 73)

### **Intercession Focus: *Reconciliation***

Pray for God to bring reconciliation and healing in all our broken relationships, including:

- Parents and children, family members
- Friends – both between church members and with non-Christians
- Church leadership and lay members



## Leader's Guide Day 4

### Suggested Plan for *Honest Confession*

- **Introduction - 5 Minutes:**
  - Remind people of general guidelines for united prayer as explained in United Prayer Guidelines (available on [www.revivalandreformation.org](http://www.revivalandreformation.org)).
  - Introduce the day's prayer topic of confession. We suggest reading the two EGW quotes on the theme sheet and encouraging people to silently confess anything that stands between them and God. Explain that if there are things they need to make right with someone else they may go to that person during the silent prayer time and quietly make things right. You may also want to have pen and paper available in case anyone wants to write a letter to someone to make amends. Sins of a general, open nature may be confessed to everyone during the corporate confession time.
  - Have each person select five intercession cards at random from the intercession box to pray over during the supplication time. Make sure they return these to the box at the end.

### United Prayer Time

- **Praise - 10 Minutes:**
  - Praise God for being our Savior and forgiving all our sins. Use the scriptures on the theme sheet to guide your praises.
  - Answers to prayer should be shared during this time as praises to God.
- **Confession – 20 Minutes:**

Silent prayer and confession time: Invite people to individually repent of their sins and ask God to show them areas of sin in their lives. Also – remind people they can go to individuals they need to make things right with, or write a letter of apology if needed.

  - Allow about five minutes for corporate confession asking forgiveness for sins of a corporate nature. You may want to have someone read/pray aloud Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9:4-19 or use it as a model for praying together.
- **Supplication - 20 Minutes:**
  - Pray for a spirit of true confession to be manifested in our church. Especially pray/claim the promises on the theme sheet.
  - Claim the outpouring of the Holy Spirit promised in God's word.
  - Invite people to especially pray about any relationships in their own lives that need reconciliation and healing. Also, pray about relationships in your church that may need to experience reconciliation.
  - Divide people into groups of twos or threes to pray for the individuals/situations listed on the five cards they chose from the box.
- **Praise - 5 Minutes:**
  - Thank God for granting us true repentance, total forgiveness, and reconciliation!

**Suggested Songs to Use:** Have Thine Own Way, Lord (*SDA Hymnal* #567); I Surrender All (*SDA Hymnal* #309); Create in Me a Clean Heart; Amazing Grace (*SDA Hymnal* #108); Thank You Lord for Saving My Soul; Power in the Blood (*SDA Hymnal* #294); Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus (*SDA Hymnal* #290).