

Sermon Bible Study Series

Title: First John: Abide in Love (Week 2)—Confession and Community

Primary Text: 1 John 1:5-10

Expanded Reading:

Big Idea: *Confession is a truth-speaking that becomes the source of true community—with God and one another.*

Engage

Have you ever experienced loss of community because people struggled to tell the truth? What was that like?

This question shouldn't take too much time, but should open people to conversation. Validate people's stories and gently invite responses.

- a. ***Have someone briefly review what they remembered from the sermon?*** (You may want to be pre-prepared with the main points to supplement if your group is not able to)
- b. ***What stood out to you/challenged you/ made you think in the sermon?*** (this question could be moved to the deepen section)
- c.

Learn

Read the Primary Text

- 1. *How does confession anchor our access to community?*
- 2. *How does confession create community?*
- 3. *What are some ways that speaking the truth is both hard and good at the same time?*
- 4. *What are some ways that walking in the light helps us to thrive?*

Deepen

What questions did you want to ask when listening to the sermon?

Leaders, allow people to wrestle with the text. Don't feel like you need to have all the answers, but in your preparation think about the questions that will arise and be prepared to point toward Jesus and the Scriptures for answers.

What Scripture passages might inform these unanswered questions?

Live

If the church really is a "hospital for sinners and not a museum for saints," should this change anything we do?

P. Jeremy said that the gospel can be boiled down to three things: the truth about God, and the truth about us, and the truth about Christ. Can you practice putting these three truths in your own words?