

Meeting 5.1



Module 5 outcome: The disciple understands and practices a life of confession within community.

DISCUSS the questions from *Gift*.

THE POINT OF THE VIDEO: Confession isn't simply about guilt. It's also a gift. Confession is a gift that gives us security, forgiveness, and family.

1. When you hear the word confession, what is your first thought?
2. Have you ever thought about confession as a gift? How does this ring true?
3. Confession gives us **security, forgiveness, and family**. What's another gift you might add to this list?
4. **Security.** We live in a world that is infected with insecurity. What is the source of this disease, and how is confession the antidote?
5. **Forgiveness.** We know confession leads to forgiveness—but we don't always act that way. What is it about the gift of forgiveness that is so difficult to receive?
6. **Family.** In his book, *Life Together*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes, "He who is alone with his sins is utterly alone...in confession the break-through to community takes place...if a Christian is in the fellowship of confession with a brother he will never be alone again, anywhere."

How does confession bring us together?



7. Rewind back to Module 1, when you used the *Field Guide for Daily Prayer*. During the Prayer of Confession, you may remember asking forgiveness for what we have done, and for *what we have left undone*.

You may have heard this explained as sins of “commission” and sins of “omission.” How can our failure to act be sinful?

9. Repentance is a key step in the process of confession and forgiveness. Repentance doesn't just mean we're sorry we've been caught in sin; repentance means we're grieving our sin, and how it's hurt God and other people. It means we are ready to completely turn our back on that sin, and go the other direction.

Have you experienced the difference between confession with and without repentance? What impact did repentance make?

ASSIGNMENT: Before the next meeting, read the essay, “Holy Confrontation,” found on the Module 5 resource page.

