

I. What is Confession?

There are two parts to confession. One is that we confess our sins. The other is that we receive absolution, or forgiveness, from a fellow Christian as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that our sins are forgiven in this way before our heavenly Father.

2. What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we don't know we have done, as we do in the Lord's Prayer. However, before one another we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

3. Which sins are these?

Examine your place in life according to the Ten Commandments.

Have you been faithful as a father, mother, son, daughter, employer or employee?

Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy?

Have you injured anyone by what you have said or done?

Have you stolen anything, neglected your duty, been careless, or damaged anything?

4. What will a fellow Christian say to someone who has confessed his or her sins?

He will say, "According to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."