

# Everyday FAITH Family Page

## Old Testament 3

### Law/Gospel

Weighed down by my sins, I make excuses and put the blame on God and others. **God is faithful and just to forgive my sins because Jesus, God's Son, has taken the blame for me, heaping upon Himself the sins of the world.**

### Bible Words

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Colossians 3:12-13

### Quotable

"A Christian will find it cheaper to pardon than to resent. Forgiveness saves the expense of anger, the cost of hatred, the waste of spirits."

Hannah More, 1745-1833

## God Forgives David

2 Samuel 12:1-23

God's prophet Nathan had a unique relationship with David. Although subject to David, he had special access to the king as a prophet who spoke God's Word to him in many situations.

Their most famous encounter happened when Nathan rebuked the king for adultery with Bathsheba and the murder of her husband, Uriah.

To do this, Nathan told David a parable about a poor man who had one beloved ewe lamb. The lamb was like a daughter to him. When a traveler visited a rich man, he did not want to take one of his own flock to feed him, so he took the poor man's lamb and ate it. Incensed, David told Nathan the man deserved to die.

Nathan replied, "You are the man!" Convicted, David repented and received God's forgiveness. This account shows us the role of confession at work in the life of a Christian.

Born in sin, we cannot keep ourselves from sinning. In fact, we often do the very thing we do not want to do! Because we cannot fix ourselves, God the Father sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross to pay for our sin and set us free. The Holy Spirit works to show us our sin, prompt sorrow and repentance, and give us forgiveness of sin through Christ. In this way, God restores us and our relationship with Him.

### From the Catechism

#### *What is confession?*

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

#### *What sins should we confess?*

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

### Prayer

*Lord God, forgive us our sins and lead us in the paths of righteousness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

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