

Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me! Psalm 66:16-20 (NIV)

Confession

Here I am Lord. I have come to meet with you in prayer. There is something that I have not talked to you about much. **What's that?** I haven't talked to you about my sin. I know that I am a sinner. Even now as your follower I know that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, words and deeds. My sins are not in the distant past. I wasn't once a sinner. I still am a sinner. I know that you have forgiven and paid for my sins on the cross. I know that you have cleansed me of all my unrighteousness. I know that my old life of sin is gone and that I am living a new life of righteousness in you. **That's right.** Nevertheless, I still do sin. I am not perfect. I have thought, and said and done what was not pleasing to you. I sinned in what I have done and in what I have left undone. I am here to confess all my sins to you. **That is very good.**

I don't want anything to come between us. I don't want anything to hinder my prayers to you. For that reason I will not hang on to anything that is not pleasing to you. I will not let sin captivate me. I will not let sin allure and entice me. I will not let sin catch me in its trap. I will take the way you have provided for me so that I will not fall into temptation. Sometimes, I will make missteps. I will go and do what I shouldn't have done. I will think thoughts that are not pleasing to you. I will speak words that are not acceptable to you. I will turn away from sinful thoughts, words, and deeds. I will turn to you to live the life that you have given me to live. It will be my regular practice to come to confess all my sins to you. I will continue to live in your forgiveness and cleansing. **That will be very good.**

You do completely forgive me. You do fully cleanse me. You show me your love and kindness. **Yes, I do.** You have lavished me with your love. You have done great things for me. It will be my joy, with a heart full of thanksgiving to give thanks and praise and glory to you. I will tell others all that you have done for me. You have heard and answered my prayers. **Yes, I have.**

Lord, there is no doubt about it. I am a sinner. There is no hiding that fact from you. You and I know it is true. I'm here to confess all my sins to you. I have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. Forgive and cleanse me of all my unrighteousness. Amen

If *Cherished Sin*

Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!

NIV Psalm 66:16-20

If *Had Not Confessed Sin*

Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he did for me. For I cried out to him for help, praising him as I spoke. If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But God did listen! He paid attention to my prayer. Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or withdraw his unfailing love from me.

NLT Psalm 66:16-20

If *Cherished Iniquity*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

NRSV Psalm 66:16-20

If *Regard Iniquity*

Come and hear, all you who reverently and worshipfully fear God, and I will declare what He has done for me! I cried aloud to Him; He was extolled and high praise was under my tongue. If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me; But certainly God has heard me; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not rejected my prayer nor removed His mercy and loving-kindness from being [as it always is] with me.

AMP Psalm 66:16-20

If *Regard Wickedness*

Come and hear, all who fear God, And I will tell of what He has done for my soul. I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue. If I regard wickedness in my heart, The Lord will not hear; But certainly God has heard; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer Nor His lovingkindness from me.

NASB Psalm 66:16-20

If *Cherished Iniquity*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

ESV Psalm 66:16-20

If *Regard Iniquity*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul. I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue. If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, Nor His mercy from me!

NKJV Psalm 66:16-20

If *Cozy With Evil*

All believers, come here and listen, let me tell you what God did for me. I called out to him with my mouth, my tongue shaped the sounds of music. If I had been cozy with evil, the Lord would never have listened. But he most surely did listen, he came on the double when he heard my prayer. Blessed be God: he didn't turn a deaf ear, he stayed with me, loyal in his love.

MSG Psalm 66:16-20

If *Not Confessed My Sins*

Come and hear, all of you who reverence the Lord, and I will tell you what he did for me: For I cried to him for help with praises ready on my tongue. He would not have listened if I had not confessed my sins. But he listened! He heard my prayer! He paid attention to it! Blessed be God, who didn't turn away when I was praying and didn't refuse me his kindness and love.

TLB Psalm 66:16-20

If *Know Of Sin*

All of you who fear God, come and listen, and I will tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth and praised him with my tongue. If I had known of any sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened to me. But God has listened; he has heard my prayer. Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or hold back his love from me.

NCV Psalm 66:16-20

Cherished Sin

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

If – Psalm 66:16-20

In Context: Read Psalm 66

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me! Psalm 66:16-20

Considering The Words: *(What words speak to your heart?)*

Come | and | listen, | all you | who fear God; | let me | tell you | what he | has done | for me. | I cried out | to him | with | my mouth; | his praise | was | on | my tongue. | If I | had cherished | sin | in my heart, | the Lord | would not | have listened; | but God | has surely | listened | and | heard | my voice | in prayer. | Praise be | to God, | who | has not | rejected | my prayer | or | withheld | his love | from me! Psalm 66:16-20

Praying The Scripture: *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Lord, there is no doubt about it. I am a sinner. There is no hiding that fact from you. You and I know it is true. I’m here to confess all my sins to you. I have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. Forgive and cleanse me of all my unrighteousness. Amen

What It Means: *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

When have you held on to a sin and had no desire to confess it to the Lord?

When has sin kept you from wanting to draw near to the Lord and offer your prayers to Him?

When have you confessed your sins to the Lord as part of your coming to Him in prayer?

How is giving praise and thanks to the Lord part of your coming to Him in prayer?

How has the Lord heard and answered the prayers that you have prayed to Him?

When have you suspected that unconfessed sin in your life was hindering your prayers?

When have you told others about how God has lovingly heard and answered your prayers?

Living It Out: *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Confess your sins to the Lord as part of your coming to Him in prayer.

Seeing It Happen: *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that as you confess your sins to the Lord they will not hinder your prayers from being heard and answered.

Get Ready To Share: *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group how you are making it your practice to confess your sins to the Lord.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of..

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you confess your sins to the Lord so that they will not hinder your prayers.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will confess my sins to you so that nothing will hinder my prayers.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what sin do I need to confess to you so that my prayers will not be hindered?
