

# Receiving Confession

James 5:16

# **Barriers to Closeness**

**Lacking Empathy  
or Honesty**

“... for **all** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus ...”

**Romans 3:23-24**

“Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.”

**Matthew 23:26**

“Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,”

## **Philippians 3:12-13**

**Lacking Empathy  
or Honesty**

**Judgmental or  
Easily Shocked**



“What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. As it is written: ‘There is none righteous, no, not one’”

**Romans 3:9-10**

**Judgmental or  
Easily Shocked**

Not One to Keep  
a **Confidence**

“A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.”

**Proverbs 11:13**

“He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.”

**Proverbs 17:9**

“He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets; Therefore do not associate with one who flatters with his lips.”

**Proverbs 20:19**

Not One to Keep  
a **Confidence**

# **Practical Advice**

**Listen Actively**

“... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, **being watchful** to this end with all perseverance and supplication **for all the saints** - and for me ... that I may open my mouth boldly ...”

**Ephesians 6:18-20**



**Listen Actively**

**Pray Together**

“Confess your trespasses to one another, and **pray for one another**, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”

**James 5:16**

“But you are a chosen generation, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;”

**1 Peter 2:9**

**Pray Together**

**Remember the Joy**

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to **forgive** us our sins and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.”

**1 John 1:9**

“Likewise, I say to you, **there is joy** in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**Luke 15:10**



**Remember the Joy**

**Honesty Leads  
to Confession.  
Confession Leads  
to Change.**