



## **Confession 1:**

### ***Zeal for God – to be with Him and uphold His standards***

Father, we come before you and confess that we have not been as zealous for you as we should have been. Forgive us for both expecting and accepting the good from your hand, but then not embracing the challenges and difficulties that you have allowed in our lives with the same joy and gratefulness. Forgive us for sometimes resenting your discipline, and for wanting easy paths and quick results. We have too often allowed the worries and distractions of this world to occupy our hearts, and failed to come before you with humility and eagerness to know and do your will.

Father, we acknowledge that we can easily forget what our lives were like without you. We all know where we were heading before you saved us – divorce, addiction, lives of anger and bitterness, loneliness, and self-destruction—meaningless life followed by meaningless death. We affirm the truth of Peter's inspired words in his second letter that such forgetfulness leads to "ineffective and unproductive lives."

Father, forgive us for waiting for others to take the initiative when we have seen needs and opportunities to serve. Forgive us for slowness of heart and selfish attitudes. Forgive us for not encouraging those who have been trying to move forward and for not building up their faith. Forgive us for negativity and faithlessness that does not provide the grace or give the opportunity for others to change and grow. Although we know that prayer and dependence on you are the keys to success, we have often tried to fix things in our own strength and relied on our own understanding.

Jesus, forgive us for taking our eyes off you and forgetting that only with your help can we truly live the life you have called us to lead. You alone are worthy to be our first and greatest love—help us to prove this conviction in our actions.

We as a church repent—not tomorrow, not later today, but right now.

- We will remember and rejoice in our salvation daily and express our joy and gratitude to God in our worship, both corporate and personal.
- We will no longer serve ourselves but serve God wholeheartedly in our daily lives, even when it seems difficult and unappreciated—even when there are no human witnesses and no chance for human affirmation or praise.
- We will not tolerate sin, no matter what the excuse – because God called us to be holy.
- We will faithfully assemble together and come prepared to encourage each other and worship God whole-heartedly.
- We will seek to understand God and to know Him better through our personal Bible study and prayer, so that we will rely more on him.
- We will seek our strength from God – because he is our rock and sole protector against evil.
- We will live lives of joy, happiness, gratitude and excitement because the battle against Satan has been won and the victory is God's.

We will be zealous to be with God and zealous to uphold His standards for our lives and His church

To God be the glory