Confession of Christ

What does it really mean to "confess Christ?" We hear that phraseology often in the church, but do we really know what it means?

Most believe that it means to say out loud before witnesses as Peter did in Matthew 16:16, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God," or as we would say it, "I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God."

But isn't this a *pro*fession instead of a *con*fession? That's why it may seem a bit tricky. It depends on how we define our terms.

Any time I have confusion with terms in my English Bible, I go back to the original text. We're very blessed to live in a time that we can see the whole of the original text of the Bible online for free!

Let's do that – let's look at a popular text about confessing Christ together, Matthew 10:32, Jesus said,

"Therefore, everyone who <u>confesses</u> Me before people, I will also <u>confess</u> him before My Father who is in heaven." (Emphasis mine)

When we look up the word confess, we see that it's the same Greek word in both instances, *homolgeo*, which literally means, "to say the same thing as another, i.e. to agree with."

That gives us some nice clarity. The meaning of confess in this context means to agree with. Okay, but agree with whom? And agree with what?

Look back to the verse – Jesus is saying, "Everyone who says the same thing about Me, in agreement with Me about who I am, in front of people, I will also say that you are who you say you are and agree with you before God in heaven."

Now, I know that sounds a bit convoluted, but it gets to the heart of the meaning, which we're taught correctly is that if we agree with Jesus that He is the Christ, the son of the living God, and we're not ashamed to tell people that we believe that, Jesus will return the favor in a much more profound way in heaven.

(continued)→

It's a beautiful scene to imagine Jesus saying to God, "This is Wes. I agree that he is who he claims to be, one of my followers."

So, biblically speaking, our confession, as it's defined by the Bible, contains an agreement with Christ that He is who He claims to be and a verbal profession that we believe it.

Commentaries go absolutely crazy with what it means to "confess," to the point of absurdity. But the text is plain and simple. Anyone can understand it. Do you want Jesus to give you the introduction of lifetime? Introduce your belief in Him as the Christ to others. The very next verse in Matthew tells us exactly what will happen if we do not, Matthew 10:33

But whoever denies Me before people, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.

Yeah, but what does "denies" and "deny" mean in the Greek text? Exactly what it says. And what does that sound like? Matthew 10:23, Jesus says,

...I will declare to them, 'I never knew you...'

It's my prayer that none of you will ever hear those words spoken by Jesus.

Let our confession not be a one-time only event but let it be our built into the fabric of our daily lives. Confess Him in what you do. Confess Him in what you don't do. But whatever you do, don't fail to confess Him with your mouth as well.

Have I told you lately that I love you? I do.

Much love,

Wes LeFlore (918) 607-8489 or huskerwes1@gmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The danger of missing church, is soon you won't miss it.

PRAYER LIST

Roger Brownlee—is home. You can send him cards of encouragement to his address is 245 W. 10th Ave. N., Wellington, KS 67152

Kendall Brundage—fell and broke his wrist. He is in a hard cast. His address is 1372 W. 20th Ave. N., Argonia, KS 67004

Larry Jefferies—is dealing with Covid 19. He & Donna live in Branson.

Brad Stocking—nephew of Sherry Kline and brother-in-law of Linda Wartick, is dealing with cancer. Send cards of encouragement to 1723 Melody Lane, Wellington, KS 67152

Hailee Moyer—daughter of Maria Moyer and granddaughter of Marsha Dugan, was in a bad car accident and needs prayers for healing. She will need many surgeries to repair a lot of damage. Hailee attended our youth group on and off over the last several years. She graduated this year.

Melinda Miller—wife of Chris Miller, was diagnosed with breast cancer. She had surgery on November 11 to remove a small lump and 4 lymph nodes. She would appreciate prayers on her behalf.

HELP FOR SHERRY KLINE

The Elders have decided to collect funds to help Sherry Kline following the fire at her home. If you wish to help, give your donations to one of the Elders. Checks should be made payable to the Church of Christ. Hopefully we can have funds collected by the end of this month. Continue prayers for her at this difficult time.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Caroline LeFlore—15th
Landon Bales—16th
Jim DeJarnett—16th
Konnor Clark—30th

Julia LeFlore—15th
MaKenna Bales—16th
Pat Brundage—27th

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mike Kelley—8th
Ell Mae Watson—11th
Craig Bradbury—15th
Bobbi Newberry—16th
Victoria Sandoval—17th

Richard Wartick—8th
Lila Francisco—14th
Aaron Hines—15th
John Rayl—17th

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are in need of volunteers for Children's Church. If you can volunteer, see Darlene Cooney.

if you can be anything BE KIND



Royal Revelations, Part 1: God Reveals Jesus Matthew 16:13-17

| THOSE WHO SERVE | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| SUNDAY A.M. | 1-Nov | 8-Nov | 15-Nov | |
| | 5 N. I | 5 N. I | - N 1 | |
| Elder in Charge | E. Newberry | E. Newberry | E. Newberry | |
| Opening Prayer | B. Turney | J. DeJarnett | L. Lewis | |
| Song Leader | A. Shields | A. Shields | A. Shields | |
| Communion Prayer | R. Harris | M. Kline | E. Newberry | |
| Contribution Prayer | W. Pierce | W. Pierce | W. Pierce | |
| & Collection | D. Pierce | D. Pierce | D. Pierce | |
| Ushers | A. Hines | A. Hines | A. Hines | |
| | T. Kirkwood | T. Kirkwood | T. Kirkwood | |
| | 1. KII KWOOU | 1. KII KWOOU | 1. KIIKWOOU | |
| Closing Prayer | E. Newberry | E. Newberry | E. Newberry | |
| Deacon in Charge | D. Pierce | D. Pierce | D. Pierce | |
| SUNDAY A.M. | 22-Nov | 29-Nov | | |
| Elder in Charge | E. Newberry | E. Newberry | | |
| Opening Prayer | B. Turney | J. DeJarnett | | |
| Song Leader | A. Shields | A. Shields | | |
| Communion Prayer | T. Norris | R. Harris | | |
| Contribution Prayer | W. Pierce | W. Pierce | | |
| & Collection | D. Pierce | D. Pierce | | |
| & Collection | D. Pierce | D. Pierce | | |
| Ushers | A. Hines | A. Hines | | |
| | T. Kirkwood | T. Kirkwood | | |
| Closing Prayer | E. Newberry | E. Newberry | | |
| Deacon in Charge | D. Pierce | D. Pierce | | |

Note concerning COVID-19: During this month we are asking all public non-speaking participants to wear a face covering while performing their duties. This applies to ushers and to the men collecting our contribution. If you are unable to fulfill your assignment for any reason, please call the Deacon in Charge.

| ELDERS | | DEACONS | |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Marvin Kline | Kevin Dodds | Aaron Hines |
| Ed Newberry | Tom Norris | Leroy Lewis | Mike Neal |
| | | David Pierce | Alan Shields |
| MINISTER | | | |
| Wes LeFlore | | | |



ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 15, 2020

Call to Worship

Prayer

Song #711 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Song #722 "Let the Beauty of Jesus Be Seen"

Song #777 "Father, Hear the Prayer We Offer"

Communion Prayers

Contribution Prayer

Contribution Collection

Lesson

Song #909 "There's a Fountain Free"

Closing Prayer

Every Sunday during the sermon we offer Children's Church to boys and girls ages 3 years through 2nd grade. They will meet in the study for stories, crafts and learning about Jesus.