



**Address: 2163 St. Rt. 37 E.  
Delaware, OH 43015**

**Phone: 740.363.2092**

**Email: [office@delawarenewbeginnings.com](mailto:office@delawarenewbeginnings.com)**

## **MESSAGE NOTES    NOVEMBER 16th, 2025**

### **Back to the Basics**

**WHAT IS CONFESSION?** In agreement or align with; Admit or acknowledge something  
What makes confession, to God or others, difficult for you?

### **WHAT IS FORGIVENESS?**

As a Verb: “to send away”, “to let go”, “to release” with the sense of cancelling a debt or obligation.  
As a Noun: “forgiveness”, “release”, “remission”, “liberty” or “freedom”

What makes forgiveness difficult for you to ask for or to give?

Confession & forgiveness are directly related, and they might be some of the most difficult acts we do as followers of Jesus. Through confession, we admit our sin and ask to be forgiven (cleansed); through forgiveness we are made clean and have freedom from the eternal consequences of sin. Living a life of confession and forgiveness is how Jesus disciplines us.

Are we allowing the Holy Spirit to change our heart (sanctify) to give us true freedom?  
Are confession and forgiveness a basic part of our faith?

### **Matthew 18:21-35: The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” 22 Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. 23 “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. 25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. 26 “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’

27 The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. 28 “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. 29 “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ 30 “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

32 “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35 “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

**John 20:23** “If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

**WASH: Psalm 51:2, 7** Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. 7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

**RINSE: Hebrews 10:19-22** “Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.”

**REPEAT:** 1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

What do you need to confess today?

How are you eluding the call to a life of forgiveness?

“The heart is the place where we are most human. A listening heart therefore means a heart in which we stand open to God with all of our questions, with all that we are, and with all that we have. That is a great act of trust and confidence.” Henri Nouwen “Spiritual Direction”

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Amen.