

PREPARING FOR WONDERS

Getting Honest About Where We Are So We Can Move Forward

March 3, 2024 - Week One

2 Chronicles 16:9a

The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him...

Joshua 3:5

Then Joshua said to the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you."

>> God does not use those who have a clean past but those who have a heart that is submitted to him.

1 Timothy 1:12-16

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength to do his work. He considered me trustworthy and appointed me to serve him, **even though** I used to blaspheme the name of Christ. In my insolence, I persecuted his people. **But God had mercy on me** because I did it in ignorance and unbelief. Oh, how generous and gracious our Lord was! He filled me with the faith and love that come from Christ Jesus. This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all. But God had mercy on me **so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners**. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

>> Confession is being honest about your **past** so you can find **strength** for freedom in your **future**.

1 John 1:8-10

If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we **confess our sins** to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

>> Confession isn't about nailing you for your past, it's about being honest so you can find freedom in your future.

Proverbs 28:13

People who conceal their sins will not prosper,
but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.

>> We need to be honest **with ourselves** so we can finally deal with our sin.

>> We need to be honest **with God** so we can experience his healing.

Proverbs 28:13

People who conceal their sins will not prosper,
but if they **confess and turn from them**, they will receive mercy

>> We need to be honest with **each other** so we can help each other find freedom.

Joshua 3:5

Then Joshua told the people, "Purify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do great wonders among you."