

Confess

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,
 put your whole trust in his grace,
 and promise to serve him as your Lord,
 in union with the church, which Christ has opened
 to people of all ages, nations, and races?

—The United Methodist Hymnal, *for reception into the church*

When we experience special, life-changing moments, we usually want to shout it from the mountaintops. Most couples can hardly wait to tell the world that they are having a baby. A boy falls in love and is bursting to declare his love and tell everyone he knows about this amazing person. Students are excited to share with everyone the news that they have been accepted to the college or career of their choice.

People share good news not necessarily because they want to brag about their situations but because they want to acknowledge and affirm a new reality of their lives.

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Soon you will be ready to confirm your faith, and you will be asked whether you “confess Jesus Christ as your Savior.” *Confess* may seem a strange word to use in this situation. It’s not the same kind of confession we get when someone commits a crime or the type we hear before someone rejects their past sins. It’s the type of confession you make when you are ready to declare or affirm what you believe. It’s a public acknowledgement that you are saying yes to something.

Confessing Jesus as Savior is not a one-time public declaration, though. Just like the couple having a baby or the boy who is excited to tell the world about his love, those who follow Christ want to share the good news of Jesus in their words and deeds. The question is not whether you will confess Jesus as your Savior on this one day, but will you daily confess your salvation in Christ? (Romans 10:9-10).

A man learned about Jesus when he was a teenager and declared his faith. His conversion experience was powerful, and he shared it with people at school. After a while, though, he stopped talking about his relationship with Jesus. He quietly remained a faithful member of the church into his adulthood.

One day, his co-worker came to the office and began describing an amazing experience she had the night before. She had just learned about Jesus and decided to release her life to Christ. Her friend smiled and said, “Yes, I remember how great it felt, too.” He began to tell her his story of a life with Jesus.

She simply looked at him and said, “How come you didn’t tell me?” She found it hard to understand how he could experience Jesus as Savior and not share this story with the world.

As Christ-followers, we are commissioned to share the good news of Jesus with the world and to invite people to walk with us on the Way. We are asked to confess Jesus as Savior as often as we can with our words and the way we live. Every day is a new day to celebrate our commitment to Christ.

May you confess Jesus as your Savior, daily putting your trust in him; and may you share this story with people you meet, and invite others around the world to join as disciples of Jesus Christ.

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What does it mean to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19)?

What is your experience with Jesus? How has he changed your life in a special way?

How do you confess Jesus as your Savior daily? With words? With actions?

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ABOUT CONFESSING JESUS AS SAVIOR.