

## **Nehemiah 9: Confession (Sunday 3 April 2016)**

### **1. Confession is NECESSARY.**

“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.”

— 1 John 1:8–9.

### **2. Confession is not WHERE WE START.**

“Our Father in heaven, your name is holy.

May your Kingdom come soon.

May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us today the food we need.

And forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.

And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.”

— Matthew 6:9–13.

### **3. The result of confession is WE KNOW FORGIVENESS.**

“They remained standing in place for three hours while the Book of the Law of the Lord their God was read aloud to them. Then for three more hours they confessed their sins [...]

Then they prayed: ‘May your glorious name be praised! May it be exalted above all blessing and praise’.”

— Nehemiah 9:3–5.

### **4. We sin, and need confession, because WE FORGET WHO GOD IS.**

“But our ancestors were proud and stubborn, and they paid no attention to your commands. 17 They refused to obey and did not remember the miracles you had done for them. Instead, they became stubborn and appointed a leader to take them back to their slavery in Egypt.”

— Nehemiah 9:16–17.