

**VERTICAL  
Talking With God**

**What To Say To God When You've Messed Up  
Pastor Steve Reynolds**

**INTRODUCTION**

**A.** How's your calling plan with God? Ever feel like your vertical voicemails go unheard or unanswered? Praying is talking *with* God. It is not a mindless ritual, it is a meaningful relationship. It is the heart of a child relating to the heart of a Father.

**B.** In this series I will teach you how to talk *with* God. These messages will be based primarily on the model prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 where Jesus said,

*"9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.*

*10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*

*11 Give us this day our daily bread.*

*12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."*

In this model prayer, Jesus teaches us how to talk *with* God.

**C.** Come and learn through these messages how to have real and meaningful conversations with God:

August 10            Five Good Reasons To Talk With God

August 17            The First Thing To Say To God

TODAY                What To Say To God When You've Messed Up

August 31            Talking With God About Your Needs

September 7        Unanswered Prayer?

September 14      The Ultimate Prayer Request

September 21      Praying The Scriptures

**D. TEXT:** I John 1:3-10 (Pew Bible/Pg.240/New Testament)

**B.** A **right** view of confession includes:

1. **Agreement** with God

It means "to say the same thing".

Illustration: David (Psalm 51:1-12)

2. **Repentance**

It means "to turn away from sin"

*"For godly sorrow worketh repentance..."*

II Corinthians 7:10a

3. **Forgiving** Others

*"14 For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.*

*15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."*

Matthew 6:14-15

**IV. THE **CANCELLATION** OF SIN (1:9b)**

**A.** **Satan** is the accuser of the brethren.

*"Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down."*

Revelation 12:10

**B.** **God** forgives and cleanses all sin.

*"For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You."*

Psalms 86:5

**CONCLUSION:**

The Bible says in Proverbs 28:13, *"He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy."*

Will you repent of your sin?

## WHAT TO SAY TO GOD WHEN YOU'VE MESSED UP

- **P**raise and thanksgiving.
- **R**epent of sin.
- **A**sk God to meet your needs and the needs of others.
- **Y**ield to the will of God.

### I. THE **CONSEQUENCES** OF SIN (1:3-7)

#### A. God's desire for your life. (vs 3-4)

1. God wants you to have **fellowship** with Him (v3)  
*"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.'"*  
Romans 8:15
2. God wants you to have **joy** through Him (v 4)  
*"whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,"*  
I Peter 1:8

#### B. The problem: **Sin** is the problem because it hinders our relationship with God (vs 5-7)

1. Not in a positional sense – we do not lose our relationship.  
*"27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.  
28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.  
29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.  
30 I and My Father are one."* John 10:27-30

2. But in a **practical** sense – we lose the joy of our relationship.

David said after committing sin, *"Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,..."* Psalm 51:12a

### II. THE **CONCEALMENT** OF SIN (1:8,10)

(The wrong way to deal with sin)

People often try to conceal sin by:

#### A. **Excusing** the reality of sin.

*"11 And He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?'"*  
*12 Then the man said, 'The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.'"*  
*13 And the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this you have done?'"*  
*The woman said, 'The serpent deceived me, and I ate.'"*  
Genesis 3:11-13

#### B. **Denying** the existence of sin.

*"...Yet you say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?'"*  
Malachi 1:6b

### III. THE **CONFESSION** OF SIN (1:9)

(The right way to deal with sin)

#### A. A **wrong** view of confession:

People must confess their sin before a priest and do penance for their sin.

*"For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,"* I Timothy 2:5

*"25 As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him.  
26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, 'Stand up; I myself am also a man.'"*  
Acts 10:25-26