

## Taking Steps

Three steps will help you live these truths.

### 1. Claim Christ's cleansing.

In prayer, thank God for continuing to cleanse you from all sin.

### 2. Confess specific sins.

On your own, make a list on paper of any sin of which you are currently aware. Confess it to God, writing 1 John 1:9 across the page. Tear up the list. This is a visual reminder that Jesus Christ has cleansed you from your sins by His death.

### 3. Choose to avoid sin.

Be aware that by ourselves, we lack the ability to change or avoid sin. We must rely on God's power.



## Comparing Our Stories

Though Christians are forgiven, we all still struggle with sin and failure.

My experience...

Your experience...

Since receiving Christ, to what degree have you been aware of similar struggles?

### Think about it...

How would you change your lifestyle and behavior if Jesus were always physically present with you? Would you have to quit doing certain things so that you would not offend Him? What attitudes would you try to change?

## Considering Our Struggles

How would you feel if you knew you had failed another person who was very important to you?

How would these feelings affect your actions and responses in the relationship?

How would it impact you if you didn't know that the other person had forgiven you?

What difference does forgiveness make in a relationship?

Sin has a similar impact in our relationship with Christ. How?

Your sins and struggles will affect how you experience your relationship with Christ, for He is with you always (Hebrews 13:5).



## Next Concept

FROM UNCERTAINTY TO CONFIDENCE

FROM FEELINGS OF UNWORTHINESS TO FORGIVENESS

➔ **FROM BEING UNABLE TO EMPOWERED**

FROM BEING UNPREPARED TO EQUIPPED

FROM BEING UNDEVELOPED TO MATURITY

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