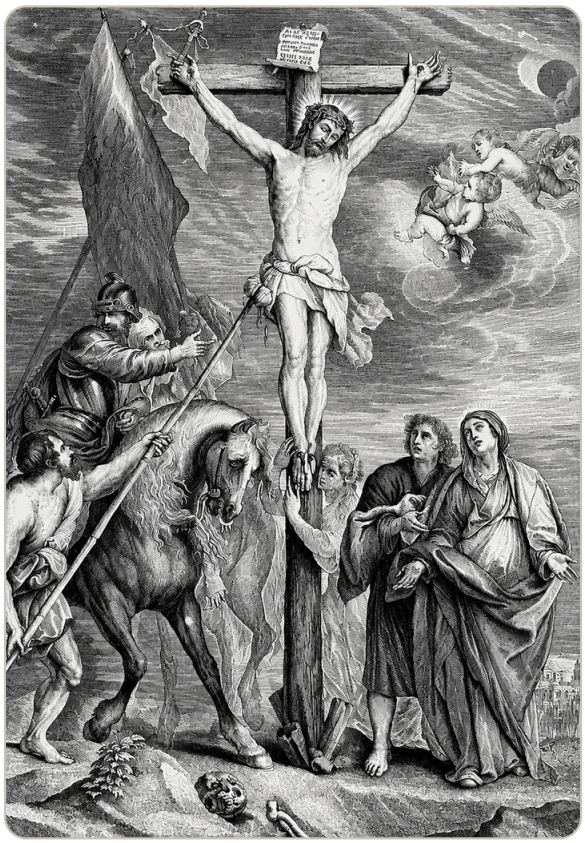
CONFESSIONAL COURAGE



Prayers & Scripture

PRAY

Prayers

Let my cry come before You, O Lord; give me understanding according to Your Word! Let my plea come before You; deliver me according to Your Word. My lips will pour forth praise, for You teach me Your statutes. My tongue will sing of Your Word, for all Your commandments are right. Let Your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen Your precepts. I long for Your salvation, O Lord, and Your Law is my delight. Let my soul live and praise You, and let Your rules help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments. ***Amen.***

Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears. Please show me now Your ways, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the Law, but that which comes through faith in Christ. Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Give me life, O Lord, according to Your Word, and I will declare Your greatness. ***Amen.***

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for my learning. Grant that I may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, I may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. ***Amen.***

Help me to grow in knowledge of Your dear Son, my Lord Jesus Christ, and to remain firm in the confession of His blessed Word. Give me the love to be of one mind and to serve others in Christ. Then I will not be afraid of that which is disagreeable, nor of the rage of the arsonist Satan, whose torch is almost extinguished. Dear Father, guard me so that his craftiness may not take the place of my pure faith. Grant that my cross and sufferings may lead to a blessed and sure hope of my coming Savior Jesus Christ, for whom I wait daily. ***Amen.***

Eternal God and Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, grant me Your Holy Spirit, who writes the preached Word into my heart so that I may hear it and believe it, and be gladdened and comforted by it for eternity. Glorify Your Word in my heart. Make it so bright and warm that I may find pleasure in it, and through Your inspiration think what is right. By Your power fulfill Your Word, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord. ***Amen.***

Lord Jesus Christ, with me abide,
For round me falls the eventide.
O let Your Word, that saving light,
Shine forth undimmed into the night.
In these last days of great distress,
Grant me, dear Lord, true steadfastness
That I keep pure, till my life is spent,
Your holy Word and Sacrament. ***Amen.***

O Lord, my God, how blessed am I! Not only have You given me Your Word, which offers and imparts to me the fruits of the redemption of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, but You have also opened my eyes, so that I may know Your grace and in firm confidence receive it. Though the world, the Law, my heart and my conscience condemn me, what do I care? Your Word declares me free from all guilt. O keep me in such faith unto my end and grant that all the members of my congregation may appreciate the great treasure they possess. Help them and me to triumph over all attacks of the devil, the world, and the flesh and finally to depart this life in peace and be received into Your eternal kingdom. Hear me for the sake of my risen and victorious Champion, Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

READ

Scripture

MATTHEW 10:32–33

Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

ROMANS 10:9–10, 17

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

HEBREWS 3:13

Exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “Today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

TITUS 2:11–12

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

ROMANS 12:1–2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

GALATIANS 5:22–24

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

WRITE

Notes