A Faith to Live By

An Independent Study of the Westminster Confession of Faith

How to use this study guide effectively each week:

- 1. **Pray** that the Holy Spirit would use the week's material to increase your knowledge of God and His Word. (see Psalm 119:1-8)
- 2. Read the Confession of Faith (WCF) sections listed. Read the proof texts too.
- Memorize the Scripture verse(s) listed.
 (Sometimes they may not line up with the particular WCF sections, but they all build to give good memory references for the overall chapter.)
- 4. Work through the discussion questions. It is best to write down your answers. The questions may sometimes be difficult. Think, pray, ponder. Don't worry if you don't have answers to everything! We will discuss at our monthly meeting. Our main goal is thoughtfulness on the matters of God's Word, not getting everything right or clear the first time through.
- 5. Come to the monthly discussion prepared to interact with the material.

March

Week 1 (4/16)

- Read: WCF 15.1-15.2
- Memorize: Psalm 51:4

Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

- Study questions:

Section 1

- 1. What does it mean that repentance is a "grace"?
- 2. Why should it be preached?
- 3. Why do the divines mention "faith in Christ" alongside repentance?

Section 2

- 4. Why is sin dangerous?
- 5. Why is sin filthy and odious?
- 6. What about God's mercy stirs us to repent?

Week 2 (4/23)

- Read: WCF 15.3-15.4
- Memorize: Luke 13:3
 - No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.
- Study questions:

Section 3

1. How essential is repentance to salvation?

2. Does repentance save us?

Section 4

3. Why do you think the divines wrote paragraph 4?

Week 3 (4/30)

- Read: WCF 15.5-15.6
- Memorize: Psalm 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and Your forgave the iniquity of my sin.

- Study questions:

Section 5

- 1. Why should we not be content with a general repentance?
- 2. How do we repent particularly?

Section 6

- 3. What sins should we confess to God?
- 4. What sins should we confess to other people?

Monthly Discussion: Thursday, May 4 @ 7:00pm