

We confess Jesus in baptism

- Plan of Salvation
 - Hear Believe Repent Confess Be Baptized
 - Matthew 10:32-33 "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.
 - Romans 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

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 - Acts 8:35-38 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. ³⁶ Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, *here is* water. What hinders me from being baptized?"
 - Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."
 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

Whoever confesses me before men

- Context of Matthew 10
 - Disciples sent out as sheep in midst of wolves
 - Be prepared to face opposition
 - Will cause division among families
 - Disciple will be treated as Jesus was
 - Fear God and not men
 - Jesus did not come to bring peace

Jesus will confess or deny us

- Confessing Jesus can be costly
 - Mark 8:36-38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." (Luke 9:26)
 - Peter's denial.. Mark 14:66-72
 - Luke 9:23 Then He said to *them* all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross [a]daily, and follow Me.

The Samaritan woman - John 4

- Jesus' conversation led her to believe
 - V 16-19 Sir I perceive that you are a prophet
 - V 22-25 Jesus reveals that He is the Messiah
 - V 28-29 She left her waterpot, went into the city
 - V 39-42 She confessed Jesus before others

The former blind man – John 9

- Jesus healed him with no mention of his faith
 - V 4-11 his healing brought immediate attention
 - V 13-17 put him in controversy "Who is this Jesus"?
 - V 22-25 threat of being put out of synagogue
 - V 30-33 he concludes Jesus is from God
 - V 35-38 Jesus finds him, his faith and courage grow

Confession of Peter and apostles

- Acts 4 Peter and John arrested
 - They had all confessed earlier (John 6:68-69)
 - 4:7-12 Peter boldly affirms Jesus as Lord
 - 4:17 They are charged not to speak in name of Jesus
 - 4:19-20 We cannot but speak what we have seen
 - 4:29-30 Pray for boldness to speak His word

What is confessing Jesus?

- Telling others you believe in Jesus even in resistance
 - Easier said than done John 12:42-43
 - We often avoid confession for fear of rejection
 - Fight the good fight of faith − 1 Timothy 6:12-13
 - I can do this (tell others what Jesus has done for me)
 - He will acknowledge me before His Father

