



# Confession

## 7. Ash

In the phrase “Ashes to ashes, dust to dust,” What do you think ashes represent (see Jeremiah 6:26)? What do you think dust represents (see Genesis 3:19)? Are ash and dust the same? How do we change from ash and dust with the death and resurrection of Christ according to 1 Corinthians 15:47-49?

## 8. Vote Yes On One

Do you identify with some of the issues that Evans has raised in this chapter? Have you ever had your own “crisis of faith”? Have you been through a time when your own belief system seemed to be in contradiction or contrast to what you’d been taught or what those around you held to be true or acceptable? If so, how did you deal with that difference?

## 9. Dirty Laundry

Would you consider going to a church where people are comfortable being uncomfortable, where dirty laundry is no longer hidden and people come just as they are? What about that would be difficult and what would be better than where you’ve been before?

## 10. What We Have Done

What thoughts or feelings does this chapter inspire? Do you think Christians are still making these mistakes now, or are we at risk of making them in the future? Why or why not?

## 11. Meet the Press

Evans writes, “Cynicism may seem a mild transgression, but it is a patient predator that suffocates hope, slowly, over many years . . .” What does this mean? Have you ever been cynical about a situation or lost your hope? Evans says that “many of our sins begin with fear” . . . did fear relate to your situation in any way? If so, fear of what?

## 12. Dust

Take a minute and imagine that you were with the religious leaders challenging Jesus with the question about stoning the woman caught in adultery. Picture Jesus responding with his words “Let any of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” How would you feel? Now imagine the same scene from the woman’s point of view. How do you feel when Jesus asks, “Where are they?”