

## WHY MAKE A PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH IN JESUS?

**Matthew 10:32-33; 12:30    Luke 9:26; 12:8-9    Romans 10:9-11    1 John 4:15**

**Introduction:** At the close of just about every worship service there is a time of "invitation." During that time people are invited to come to the front and make public whatever decision they may have made in private. Some people rededicate their lives to the Lord and to their Church family, some people move their membership, some come asking for prayer for their particular situation however the strongest emphasis of the invitation is for people who have never publicly proclaimed Jesus as their Savior to come do so. Many have asked "why do I need to come before the Church and tell them that I have believed in Jesus? I have believed in Jesus and that should be enough." Why are people asked to make a public profession of faith in Jesus before a Church congregation?

### I. JUST WHAT IS IMPLIED IN MAKING A PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH?

1. It is a public acknowledgement of heart belief in the facts revealed in the Bible about Jesus Christ.
2. It is a public surrender, submission to Jesus Christ that was first made in private.
3. It is a public identification with Jesus and all the work He is doing.
4. It is to profess publicly to be a representative of Jesus Christ.

### II. BASIC REASONS TO MAKE A PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH IN JESUS

1. It is being honest! To not do so is to play down what God and Jesus have done in order to enable you to have eternal life.
2. A public profession of faith in Jesus is essential to one's self respect of being a Christian.
3. It is due Jesus considering what He has done and continues to do for you and all other believers.
4. You are showing that you regard yourself as being under very great and lasting obligation to Him.
5. It is owed to yourself and others whom you might influence to publicly profess Jesus as Savior.
6. It is owed to the Church and others who have been praying for you.
7. You owe it to the world to show you are on the side of Jesus Christ and His cause.
8. Jesus Christ demands a public profession by those who accept Him.
9. Making a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ gives you a special interest in the Church and it's activities.

10. It causes you to have peace with God and fellowship with the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **III. REASONS PEOPLE GIVE FOR NOT MAKING A PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH**

1. "I am not a Christian!" One might ask that person, "then why not?"
2. "I'm afraid I might disgrace Jesus and His cause." To not make a profession brings greater disgrace.
3. "I'm afraid of such a responsibility." But not afraid of responsibilities to the world however.
4. "It's a solemn thing."
5. "I can be saved without making a public profession of faith." Is that Il salvation means to you?  
You refuse to publicly acknowledge Jesus Christ, yet expect to be saved by Him?
6. "I do not like to publicly commit myself." Yet you do not hesitate to identify with the world.
7. "It will bring too much restraint." Truth is you couldn't go to some places you like to go to.
8. "I'm afraid I might be sorry if I do." So what will make you sorry you ever trusted Jesus in the first place?
9. "I don't know which Church to join." Pray about it and visit around.
10. "I can live a Christian life without a public profession of faith." So you think you don't need Jesus?

### **IV. WHAT NOT MAKING A PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH IN JESUS IMPLIES**

1. It is a public denial and rejection of Jesus and all that He is and stands for.
2. It is a public profession of impenitence as well as unbelief.
3. To not make a public profession of faith in Jesus is to publicly take a stand against Him.

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. A true believer will never be afraid, ashamed or embarrassed to publicly profess Jesus as his/her Savior.
2. To not publicly profess belief in Jesus for any reason is to profess publicly disbelief in Him.
3. A public profession of faith in Jesus is putting words into visible action.