

Wednesday Word 4/8/2026

1 John 1:9 *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*

When I was in my early 20’s, I had a friend from high school spend some jail time. I wrote to him a few times and he never wrote back for whatever reason. One day, out of the blue, I got a letter from him. It seemed that he got into some gambling trouble and owed another inmate \$80 that he could not pay. If he did not pay by a certain date, the situation could get very serious and dangerous. He asked if I could send this inmate some money to pay his debt.

I debated for a day or two if I should get involved. I mean, he made the poor choice that led him to jail, and he made the poor choice that got him in gambling debt. But after a while, I realized I could part with \$80—and \$80 was not worth my friend’s life. So, I got the money order and sent in the funds to the person and paid the debt.

As I think back on this situation, I realize how simple it was for me to pay this debt. While the choice to gamble in jail is not a wise one, I have also made foolish choices in my life. While I have grown out of much foolishness from my youth, I still may tend to make a bad choice or two.

We have a God that never runs out of forgiveness if we come to Him. He paid the debt for our foolish choices and disobedience long ago on the cross. He took what I owed God, which was a debt I could not pay, and paid that debt with His life. Whenever I come to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive all my sins.

As we process all God stirred in our hearts over this past Lent season, let's continue to live with hearts that are thankful that he paid our debt.

I love you and God loves you!

Pastor Eric Lundberg