



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 13: Confession Made
Suggested Week of Use: February 27, 2022
Core Passage: Daniel 9:4-19

News Story Summary

Kevin Dugar was convicted of a 2003 gang-related shooting in Chicago and was sentenced to 54 years in prison. He maintained his innocence, refusing a plea deal that would have carried an 11-year sentence. In 2013, his twin brother Karl Smith (who took his mother's maiden name) confessed to the crime in a letter to Dugar. The judge ruled Smith's confession not credible because he was in prison for life. A lawyer took on Dugar's case, appealing the judge's decision. The Illinois Court of Appeals overturned the ruling and Dugar now is free while he waits for the Attorney General's office in Cook County to review the evidence.

For more about this story, search "twin brother confesses to the crime".

Focus Attention

To supplement the Begin idea under Focus Attention, to supplement the discussion about situations in which a person finds it hard to admit wrong, share the story about Kevin Dugar and Karl Smith. Ask: *How does this story illustrate the difficulty of admitting a wrong? How do you think this changed the relationship between the two twin brothers?* Emphasize the importance of taking responsibility for our actions. Complete the step as written.

Summarize and Challenge

To replace the Meditate idea under Summarize and Challenge, recall the story of Kevin Dugar. Ask: *What role did Smith's sense of guilt play in him confessing to his brother? How is confessing in a letter or in a court of law different than confessing to God? How does God's forgiveness compare to human forgiveness?* Complete the step using the Review idea.