

Being For Real in the Local Church

Scriptures: Psalm 32:1-5; 1 John 1:8-10; James 5:16 Luke 18: 1-14

How do you say I'm sorry and really mean it?
What are the marks of a true confession?

Five tragic consequences of no confessions: (Psalm 32)

1. Shutting down and becoming _____ (verse 3)
2. Silent on the outside but a _____ conscience on the inside (verse 3)
3. G_____ works around the clock 24/7 (verse 4)
4. Feeling _____ and _____ a lot (verse 4)
5. Feeling physically _____ (verse 4)

Jesus tells the story of two confessions: (Luke 18: 1-14)

1. The Pharisee
 - a. He was confident in his own _____ (vs. 9)
 - b. He looked _____ on everyone else (verse 9)
2. The tax collector
 - a. "God, have mercy on me a _____." (verse 13)
3. Jesus evaluates the two confessions
 - a. Because the tax collector humbled himself and was honest he went home _____. (verse 14)

Seven marks of a true confession. (1 John 1: 8-10)

1. A willingness to confess your sin as _____ as it is known
2. Words like __, _____, _____ and _____ will be avoided When these words are used - it is no confession!
3. Be _____ What did I do? It was wrong. I'm sorry.
4. Acknowledge the _____ your sin has caused.
5. You will not try to _____ the consequences.
6. There will be a noticeable _____ change
7. Ask for forgiveness, but you can't _____ it.

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Given at Locust Grove, 10/1/12