FIVE EASY WAYS TO WRECK YOUR LIFE

"Never Learn to Change", James 5:16 March 5 & 8, 2017: Cam Huxford, Senior Pastor

Making it all the way through life and never learning how to change:

- 1. What is your besetting sin? Hebrews 12:1 KJV, NLV, ESV, MSG, NIV
- 2. Do you really want to <u>overcome</u> your besetting sin?

The hardest and most powerful step away from a life wrecking pattern is to <u>confess</u> to God, to myself and to another human being the exact nature of my besetting sin.

It's important to admit the truth to God and to yourself. But it's a gigantic step forward to confess the truth to <u>others</u>.

Confession is difficult because:

- 1. We tend to blame others.
- 2. We tend to <u>rationalize</u>.
- 3. We tend to protect our image. Proverbs 28:13

Confession is valuable because:

1. Confession brings accountability.

Sins we confess only to God we tend to repeat! Ephesians 4:25 NIV

- 2. Confession releases the power of <u>prayer!</u> *Matthew 18:19 NIV*
- 3. Confession demonstrates God's acceptance. Mark 1:5 NIV
- 4. Confession sometimes requires intervention. *Matthew 18:15 NIV*

Intervening over a friend's sin requires two character traits: courage and tact. Galatians 6:1-2 NIV

Guidelines on choosing the person to whom you will confess:

- 1. Choose a Christian who shares your <u>convictions</u>. *Psalm 1:1*
- 2. Choose someone you think will be honest themselves.
- 3. Choose someone who is trustworthy! Proverbs 11:13 NIV
- 4. Choose someone of the same <u>sex</u> unless it's a professional.
- 5. Choose someone with whom you will be completely honest.

Proverbs 17:22 KJV; Ecclesiastes 3:4; Ephesians 4:25

6. Choose a teachable spirit.

The goal of confession is not a clear conscience; the goal is a changed life!





