

# Repentance & Confession

## WHY?

- God Wants You To Experience The Joy of Being Completely Forgiven for All Sins
- Living With Unconfessed Sin Results in Trouble in Body and Soul
- The only way you can find the joy of forgiveness is through the humility of confession and repentance

## The Seven “A’s” of Confession

### 1. ADDRESS EVERYONE INVOLVED

That may be just God. That may be others as well. You need to confess your wrong to everyone affected by your sin.

### 2. AVOID IFS, BUTS, MAYBES

“God, I cheated on the test, but if You hadn’t let her paper be so visible, I don’t think I would have.” “God, I yelled at my mom, but she yelled right back at me too!” Dr. Tony Evans says, “If it contains an excuse, it isn’t a confession.”

### 3. ADMIT SPECIFICALLY WHAT YOU DID WRONG

It’s easy to hide behind vague generalities. Don’t do it. Identify your sinful attitudes (pride, selfishness, envy, greed, bitterness, ingratitude, stubbornness, etc.) and sinful actions.

### 4. ACKNOWLEDGE THE HURT YOU’VE CAUSED

Let God know you realize your sinful behavior has caused him pain.

### 5. ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES

Tell God that you’re willing to bear the consequences of your sin. God may graciously let you off the hook. That’s His call, not yours.

### 6. ALTER YOUR BEHAVIOR

Proverbs 28:13 says we should confess and forsake our sin. Make a commitment that with God’s help, you won’t walk down this path again.

### 7. ACCEPT GOD’S FORGIVENESS

If after confessing your sin, you find your conscience still plagued with guilt, that’s not from God. He says that if you confess, He will forgive. Receive it, believe it, accept it!