

## Caught or Conviction

### Caught

- Genesis 3:8
- Joshua 7:10-26
- I Samuel 15:11-14
- II Samuel 12:7-13
- John 8:1-11
- Acts 5:1-11
- True repentance accepts full responsibility (no blame shifting)—taking an accurate account.
- Willing to receive discipline —Hebrews 12:6-11

### Conviction

- First step of confession is to respond to conviction
- Conviction is a work of the Holy Spirit and it is our responsibility to respond to His voice and directions
- Must pay attention to every way the Holy Spirit has chosen to speak to you and impart His ways (Spoke through prophets for over 400 years)
- He wants His ways known—while exposing the schemes of the evil one
- Convict: In a court of law—it is the final action of the Judge (with a jury in some situations)—to declare to be guilty of a criminal offense. In our setting, it is an initiation/awareness made concerning the state of our heart.
- When we are exposed to Light and Truth, without heart defenses, we see clearly, and are made aware of discrepancies between His character and our character (Isaiah 6 moment)
- Scriptures bear witness—yet we can harden our heart if we defend it. When exposed to Scripture without a response—we are hardened like Pharaoh was.

**conviction: is** A godly sorrow with ability to turn our hearts toward repentance; conviction leads us to life-and away from evil. (Isaiah 30:18)

- **How do we interrupt conviction before it leads to repentance?**
- **What is the ultimate fruit of conviction? (II Corinthians 7:9-11)**

### The Way of Confession (I John 1:5-10)

- Confession helps us be honest with ourselves. Blame-shifting gets exposed as we confess to personal responsibility.
- Confession gives voice to what the work of the Spirit is doing
- Should be specific—scripture and Spirit will be specific in conviction
- Confession breaks the power of sin's secrecy

### Fruit of Repentance

- Be ready to accept the consequences of your confession:
  - Leviticus 6:1-5—restitution ( Numbers 5:6-7, Luke 19:8-9)
  - Luke 15:19—loss of position
  - Proverbs 18:19—offended one is not easily entreated
  - Romans 8:1—there is a difference between consequences and condemnation
- Be ready to alter your current behavior—Proverbs 28:13