

Joshua 6:18-19 *“But keep away from the devoted things, so that you will not bring about your own destruction by taking any of them. Otherwise you will make the camp of Israel liable to destruction and bring trouble on it. All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the Lord and must go into his treasury.”*

The process of sin:

1. He saw what he wanted.
2. He coveted what he saw.
3. He took what he coveted.
4. He hid what he took.
5. His sin was exposed.
6. He and his family died.

## The Consequences of Sin

### 1. When we walk in sin we lose the blessing of God.

Joshua 7:12-13 *“That is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.*

*“Go, consecrate the people. Tell them, ‘Consecrate yourselves in preparation for tomorrow; for this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: There are devoted things among you, Israel. You cannot stand against your enemies until you remove them.’”*

II Timothy 2:20-21 *“Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.”*

James 4:4 *“Do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”*

### 2. When we walk in sin we lose our joy and godly confidence.

Joshua 7:4-5 *“So about three thousand went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai, who killed about thirty-six of them. They chased the Israelites from the city gate as far as the stone quarries and struck them down on the slopes. At this the hearts of the people melted in fear and became like water.”*

### 3. When we walk in sin it impacts those around us.

Joshua 7:24-25 *“Then Joshua, together with all Israel, took Achan son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the gold bar, his sons and daughters, his cattle, donkeys and sheep, his tent and all that he had, to the Valley of Achor. Joshua said, “Why have you brought this trouble on us? The Lord will bring trouble on you today.”*

#### 4. When we walk in sin it leads to death.

Joshua 7:25-26 *“Then all Israel stoned him, and after they had stoned the rest, they burned them. Over Achan they heaped up a large pile of rocks, which remains to this day. Then the Lord turned from his fierce anger. Therefore that place has been called the Valley of Achor ever since.”*

### **How to respond to sin in our life**

#### 1. Confess your sin

1 John 1:9 *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*

James 5:15 *“The prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him.”*

#### 2. Repent

Luke 5:31-32 *“And Jesus answered and said to them, “It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. “I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”*

Isaiah 30:15 *“This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.”*

#### 3. Receive forgiveness

Romans 8:1-3 (The Message) *“With the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah, that fateful dilemma is resolved. Those who enter into Christ’s being-here-for-us no longer have to live under a continuous, low-lying black cloud. A new power is in operation. The Spirit of life in Christ, like a strong wind, has magnificently cleared the air, freeing you from a fated lifetime of brutal tyranny at the hands of sin and death.”*

#### 4. Make restitution and reconciliation when possible

Matt 5:23-24 *“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.”*

### **God is able to turn our Valley of Trouble into a Door of Hope**

Hosea 2:14-15

*“Therefore I am now going to allure her;  
I will lead her into the wilderness  
and speak tenderly to her.  
There I will give her back her vineyards,*

*and will **make the Valley of Achor (trouble) a door of hope.**  
There she will respond as in the days of her youth,  
as in the day she came up out of Egypt.”*

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#### Fusion Group Questions

1. What did the Holy Spirit say to you through this passage and sermon?
2. How do you need to specifically respond to Him?
3. How do you help each other do this?
4. No one sins in isolation. How might your sins impact others?
5. Read I Corinthians 10:1-13, 1 Corinthians 11:29-34, 1 Timothy 1:20, James 5:19-20 and Acts 5:1-10. As you read these accounts, what is the scripture saying and how does it apply to your life?
6. Why do you think the current Church has forgotten the principle of confession? What power does it hold?
7. Respond to Hosea 2; God can turn the Valley of Trouble (Achor) into a Door of Hope.