Moral Compromise Demands Repentance

Immoral temptation is nothing new. We see it happening in the Bible, but today it is all too convenient. Moral compromise is just a click away on the computer keyboard or mouse. Do you know how Eskimos kill a wolf? Paul Harvey tells us, "First the Eskimo coats his knife blade with animal blood and allows it to freeze. Then he adds another layer of blood and another until the blade is completely concealed by frozen blood. Next the hunter fixes his knife in the ground with the blade up. When a wolf follows his sensitive nose to the source of the scent and discovers the bait, he licks it, tasting the fresh frozen blood. He begins to lick faster, more and more vigorously, lapping the blade until the keen edge is bare. Feverishly now, harder and harder, the wolf licks the blade in the Arctic night. So great becomes the craving for blood that the wolf does not notice the razor sharp sting of the naked blade on his own tongue, nor does he recognize the instant at which his thirst is being satisfied by his own warm blood. His carnivorous appetite just craves more - until the dawn finds him dead in the snow!"

For some reason the power of all temptation is the anticipation that giving in will make us happier. But does it? I remember several years ago that several men of the congregation I ministered to attended their first Promise Keepers Conference, and the next morning at the end of my sermon we had a long line of men stretched across the front of the auditorium. Many of them were crying. Yes, men crying. They wanted to repent of not being the husbands and fathers they knew they should be. The next day I received a phone call from another gentleman. He said, "Roy, I was so moved by the stand all of those men made yesterday, that I went home and confessed to my wife that I had been unfaithful to her a year ago." Was that as easy as it sounded for him to do? No! Was his wife pleased with his confession? No! Was everything perfect in their marriage after his confession? No! Was it the best thing for their marriage? Yes! The immoral act was a sudden act of instant gratification, but the road to repair the damage took some time and help.

Is this where you are today? It is easier to just want to go on with life and forget it, but God knows about it, and sin has a way of being found out by those closest to you. Maybe what you need to do this morning is to kneel at the cross and ask for forgiveness. It won't be as easy as the sin, but God and other believers will be there to help you.

Roy Goodlet is a retired minister and a member of Murphy Church of Christ. Email him @ royfcc@yahoo.com.