

VICTORY OVER FAILURES WORKSHEET (I John 5:4-5)Page 2 of 2 **Column (4) Expansion**

(4) My plan not to repeat this sin and to respond biblically instead (Titus 2:11-14)

Speak biblically.

I will be slow to speak, instead of just saying the first thing that comes to my mind in any situation. I will speak in love when I do speak. I will be quick to address my failures as sin, and to reconcile with others as soon as possible. With Amy, I will call her this week and ask her to forgive me for my sinful words. I will not make excuses for my behavior, but instead I will take full responsibility for my actions. I will say something close to the following, "Amy, I called you today because I have committed a horrible sin against you and against God. I would like to know if you will forgive me for yelling at you that day at Daddy's house. There is no excuse for what I said, and I hope you know that I don't think of you in that way. Will you forgive me for being so rude to you?"

If she says, "Don't worry about it." or "That's alright, it was no big deal." I will say, "No, it's not alright. I know I offended you, and it is really important to me to know that you forgive me for it."

If she says she won't forgive me or that she won't forget it, I will say, "I'm really sorry, Amy. Please know that I will never treat you that way again. I hope that in the future you will find me to be a more Christlike person, and I hope that someday I can regain your trust through my actions."

Act biblically.

I will continue to review Matthew 5:23-24 using my scripture memory plan to remind myself of God's commandment to me to be reconciled with others before we come into His presence. I will seek God's help in being able to carry out my plan, and ask God to help me focus on pleasing Him in this situation, instead of just ignoring the problem like I have been doing for years. I will seek to become more Christ-like in my actions by spending time in prayer on a regular basis. I will ask God to forgive me for being so unwilling to seek reconciliation with Amy even after He has clearly commanded me to do so.

My contingency plan for overcoming my failure to reconcile with another:

As soon as realize that I have failed to reconcile with another I will: S.T.O.P.:

Surrender to God's will by confessing my spirit of pride and selfishness and by asking God to help me humble myself before God and the person against whom I have sinned.

Think of the situation biblically, reminding myself that no situation is worth being disobedient to God by holding on to the past. Recite my Scripture memory verses which deal with reconciliation. Remember that by failing to reconcile with another, I am robbing myself of the ability to have my prayers heard and I am not following the commandments of my Lord.

Open my heart to receive God's wisdom in knowing how best to reconcile with the other person. Allow God to cleanse me of my self-focus and help me to focus on pleasing Him, instead of focusing on pleasing me.

Prepare for God's blessings, knowing that He will richly bless those who seek to do His will. I will keep my focus on the prize rather than on the problem. I will remind myself that God works all things together for His good. He can use any situation to do His work. My obedience in this situation may be God's way of humbling me for some other purpose.

If I fail to keep my plan:

I will confess my sinful behavior to the Lord.

I will start on my basic plan again immediately, making adjustments as necessary.