



The Cornerstone Foundation presents
THE FELLOWSHIP OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Many promises and commitments are made. Unfortunately, most are not kept. Often the most sincere individuals experience spiritual bankruptcy because of a failure to carry through on their commitments. The problem is not necessarily insincerity, as we often suppose, but rather the cause of failure is a lack of accountability to spiritual disciplines.

ACCOUNTABILITY is the system which allows an objective standard to judge our performance concerning commitments we have made. The question is, will we be accountable for our actions?

No one would judge King David to be an insincere, promiscuous, fraudulent hypocrite either before or after Bathsheba. Rather, King David is the example of a man who rose to a position of power that allowed him to remove objective standards of accountability. Only God's faithfulness brought him back.

Joseph refused to sleep with Potiphar's wife because of his accountability to his superior. He has become the great example of choosing right over fleshly desires. He anticipated accountability!

Saul, the King of Israel, became a man of power and privilege. The new heart which God had given him carried with it a commensurate performance responsibility to God's clearly outlined standard of obedience. Saul found emotions and personal desires stronger than conviction. He had the power and position to facilitate his flesh.

Moses was overburdened and experienced administrative failure. In response to his weakness, he made himself accountable to his father-in-law and established a nation.

Peter was great apostle of anti-discrimination and grace. However, when he came into contact with Galatian legalists, he capitulated to their demands. Being accountable to the apostles and withstood to the face by Paul, he corrected his practice.

These are the Bible stories of accountability failures and successes. Today an astounding percentage of practicing pastors and other religious professionals find themselves before the alluring screen of the computer and journey into the dark underworld of pornography. Here the flood tide of addiction brings down years of kingdom-building. *How will my accountability appear in the record of my life in regard to my commitments?*

Here is the key:

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FAILURE AND SUCCESS IS NOT TO BE FOUND IN THE DEGREE OF SINCERITY ONE HAS, BUT IN THE *DEGREE OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE TO WHICH ONE WILL SUBMIT. KEY...I TIM: 4:16*

STOP! There are four steps to starting from where you are, with all you have, doing all you can to get it right!

- Stop where you are
- Talk to someone now
- Obtain the keys to accountability
- Pursue the Spirit-filled life

Accountability is:

- 1) A choice that I make. *"I will keep my body under."*
- 2) A person that I choose. *"Be filled with the Spirit" and choose a brother.*
- 3) A point of reference that is the guide. *I measure myself against a standard.*

Accountability requires:

- 1) That I act now. *I start by marking a time of beginning.*
- 2) That I act with commitment. *I do this regularly without fail.*
- 3) That I act with confidentiality. *I deal in trust.*
- 4) That I act with purpose. *I will keep my commitment*

Accountability commits: to enter the crucible with my brother.

Accountability asks:

- 1) Am I pursuing a platonic relationship?
- 2) Is there a sin I have not forsaken?
- 3) Is there a temptation to which I yield?
- 4) Is there any inappropriate activity with my computer, TV or other technology?
- 5) Is there a consistency in my devotional time?
- 6) Have I faithfully and regularly studied the Scriptures?
- 7) Am I faithfully ordering my life with purpose, vision, mission and goals?
- 8) Is there any broken fellowship with any brother; and restitution needed?
- 9) Is there any counter-transference going on in my life and am I morally pure?
- 10) Do I treat my wife as a vessel of honor?
- 11) Is my family properly cared for physically, spiritually and emotionally?
- 12) Do I truly desire 100% victory in my life?
- 13) Am I lying?

Now take the steps and open a new door of victory and spiritual success!

COMMITMENT

I _____ do this day choose _____
as my accountability partner and will faithfully meet with my partner every _____
for the next year, answering truthfully in the light of God's Word the foregoing questions. I
further pledge confidentiality to my accountability partner as we fully trust each other.

Signed this day _____

*Cornerstone Foundation 2010
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"It is never too late to become what you should have been!"