

Silence Kills

A Community of Peace	How do I take responsibility for my contribution to the conflict?	Going Deeper—Living it Out	How would you define confession?
	[the pain of silence] Psalm 32		
	Proverbs 28.13		Why do we often find it so difficult to confess our wrongs? What are some of the ways we minimize or avoid admitting our sin?
	[true confessions]		
	A		How does keeping silent about our sin hurt us and others?
	A		Describe a situation where you have seen the silence of unconfessed sin destroy someone.
A	Talk through the Seven A's of confession. Why is each aspect an important ingredient of confession?		
A			

A Community of Peace	A	Going Deeper—Living it Out	Which of the Seven A's is the most difficult for you to do sincerely and thoroughly? Why?
	A		How can your celebrating and meditating on God's grace and forgiveness help you to confess your sins more easily and quickly?
	[putting it together] Break down the walls		
	Embrace grace		Describe the most encouraging and effective confession you have ever received, given or heard about. What made it so powerful?
	[big questions] How is hidden sin killing you and your relationships with God and others?		
	How long are you willing to suffer until you are ready to confess those sins?		<p style="text-align: center;">MEMORIZE THIS!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Proverbs 28.13 (NIV)</p>
[next step] Referring to the "progression of an idol" description I wrote in the Next Step last week, I will write a complete "Seven A" confession of how my desires and actions have affected the other person. I will go to that person this week and make a sincere and thorough confession, asking God to bring about a genuine reconciliation.			