

How to deal with sinful mistakes

- I must be aware of when I sin – **2 Cor. 7:10; 2 Sam. 12:13, Lk. 22:61-62**
- I must repent and confess it to the Lord – **1 Jn. 1:9, Psm. 51, 34:18**
- If my sin involved others, set a bad example, I must own it, accept consequences – **Prov. 28:13, 12:22, Acts 5:7-8 (Sapphira); Matt. 5:13, 16, Titus 2:7-8**
- My goal, my standard, must always be perfection – **1 Jn. 2:1, 1 Cor. 9:27**

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Learning to acknowledge, to own, our sinful mistakes is crucial for spiritual maturity:

- It teaches us accountability, responsibility
- It teaches us to be honest, have integrity
- It helps us prevent the “snowball effect” – see David
- It engenders respect from others
- It reminds us of who and what we are supposed to be in this world: **Rom. 12:1-2, Phil. 4:8**