

# When Sin Costs You Your Job

## Examples of gross misconduct which can lead to discipline or termination.

- Theft or fraud
- Physical violence or bullying
- Deliberate and serious damage to property
- Serious misuse of an organization's property or name
- Deliberately accessing internet sites containing pornographic or offensive material
- Serious insubordination
- Discrimination or harassment
- Bringing the organization into serious disrepute
- Serious incapability at work brought on by alcohol or illegal drugs
- Causing loss, damage or injury through serious negligence
- A serious breach of health and safety rules and
- A serious breach of confidence

<https://www.brighthr.com/brightbase/topic/employee-conduct/professional-misconduct>

Always remember that the presenting issue is a symptom of sinfulness within the heart.

- <sup>9</sup> The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? <sup>10</sup> "I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds." *Jeremiah 17:9-10 (ESV)*
- <sup>20</sup> And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. <sup>21</sup> For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, <sup>22</sup> coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. <sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person." *Mark 7:20-23 (ESV)*

# Loss of a job due to sinful behavior exposes the deceitful nature of sin.

- Often a people are so blinded to their own sin, they are genuinely surprised when they are faced with the consequences.
- <sup>18</sup> And the LORD sent you on a mission and said, 'Go, devote to destruction the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.' <sup>19</sup> Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you pounce on the spoil and do what was evil in the sight of the LORD?" <sup>20</sup> And Saul said to Samuel, "I have obeyed the voice of the LORD. I have gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me. I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have devoted the Amalekites to destruction. *1 Samuel 15:18-20 (ESV)*

# Biblical infractions in the face of sinful behavior.

- Attempts to justify wrongdoing 1 Samuel 15:13:15
- Denial of wrongdoing 1 Samuel 15:20
- Blaming others for your sinful behavior 1 Samuel 15:21
- Playing the victim 1 Samuel 15:24
- Acts of desperation 1 Samuel 15:27

## People and areas impacted from losing a job as a result of sinful behavior.

- The employer 1 Samuel 15:11,29,35
  - A difference needs to be seen between:
    - I regret what I have done and had I known I would have done things differently. see 1 Samuel 15:29
    - I regret that this person made the choices he made but that would not change the decision to give this person the opportunity I gave him. See 1 Samuel 15:11,35
- Other employees 1 Samuel 15: 11,35
- Family
- Finances
- Friends
- Church Family

Typical responses of a spouse or children, especially when the one who loses the job is the main breadwinner.

- Situations like this often expose issues of the heart in those affected.
  - Anger
  - Anxiety      Matthew 6:25-34
  - Confusion
  - Mistrust.      Could also include lack of trust in God.

# Typical reactions by the person who lost his or her job due to sinful behavior.

- Our place as counselors is to help those who come to us bring each of these reactions under the lordship of Christ.

Panic            Shame

Guilt            Fear

Grief            Anxiety

Sadness

# Moving forward

- Humility
- Integrity Psalm 15
- Restoration
  - Relationships
  - Restitution where appropriate and possible.
- Forgiveness
- A growing relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.  
2 Peter 1:3-10