Admit

And for those of us who can admit our faults, there are some modern aids and incentives. A German organization, the Lazarus Society, released a CD-ROM that lists 200 of the most popular sins, allows you to customize the list to match your particular temptations, and includes suggested penances and links to online priests. Then there’s the Franciscan friar in Somerville, Massachusetts, who gave his parishioners coupons for 50 cents off the sin of their choice. A thrifty sinner could redeem the coupon so that, for example, a 10-novena sin would cost him only 5. Finally, there was the exhibit at an Italian trade show that featured a high-tech confessional to which people could fax their confessions. Apparently, as Oscar Wilde wrote, “it is the confession, not the priest, that gives us absolution.” *(Ben Franklin’s Almanac, p. 295)*

A man who admits he is allergic to lawn work says, "I long for the day when anybody caught working in the yard will be arrested for disturbing the ecology." *(Red O'Donnell, in Nashville Banner)*

**We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty. *(Maya Angelou)***

JPMorgan Chase will pay $800 million to regulators "and make a groundbreaking admission of wrongdoing.," said Ben Protess and Jessica Silver-Greenberg in NYTimes.com. The bank will be conceding a degree of responsibility for the multibillion-dollar "London whale" loss last year, to which a London-based trader blew $6 billion through risky trades. The admission of wrongdoing, in particular, reverses regulators' "longtime policy that has allowed banks to 'neither admit nor deny' misconduct" and "will be a rare stain on JPMorgan's reputation. The unusual acknowledgement could also expose the largest U.S. banks to civil suits 2down the road. (*The Week magazine, September 27, 2013)*

Nothing is more intolerable than to have to admit to yourself your own errors. *(Ludwig van Beethoven)*

If you’re a cat lover, I’m not sure if you’d be more or less likely to agree with the following quote from Doug Larson: “The cat could very well be man’s best friend, but would never stoop to admitting it.” *(Samantha Weaver, in Tidbits)*

Remember when Ford produced the Edsel. It was a major failure. All premarket research indicated that the Edsel would be well received, but the public didn’t buy it. Ford quickly dropped the Edsel and thereby cut their losses short. Had management’s ego been so big they didn’t want to admit their mistake, the Edsel could have stayed on the market and could have eventually made Ford Motor Company the failure and not just a product. *(Joe Griffith, Speaker’s Library of Business, p. 305)*

To err is human; to admit it, superhuman. *(Doug Larson, United Feature Syndicate)*

Admit your errors before someone else exaggerates them. *(Andrew V. Mason, M.D.)*

I'm always the first to admit my mistakes. Although with a wife, three kids, a mother-in-law and a boss -- it's always a close race. *(Orben's Current Comedy)*

As a football official you encounter an opportunity to fail on every play of every game. You have to make a decision. I actually say to myself before every play, “Lock and load.” I say it out loud. I’ve done that for years. That is the reminder to me that everything else is now meaningless. You throw the flag or you don’t throw the flag. My most publicized failure – which frankly isn’t my biggest mistake – was three or so years ago in Denver when they played San Diego. It’s a mistake that every referee has made. It’s the whole question about whether it was a pass or a fumble. It’s a very difficult call. I ruled an incomplete pass, but it was a fumble. When that happened, we went to replay. Frankly, I knew it was wrong right after it happened. (Hochuli’s call gave the ball to the Broncos.) If it had happened in the first or the second quarter, nobody would have ever said anything about it. But it happened at the end of the game, and Denver won. When that happens, you can’t let yourself get caught up in the fact that you’ve just made a mistake, or else I’m paralyzed for the rest of the game. So you immediately have to recognize the mistake, because you won’t cause anything but detriment if you lie to yourself. Then you have to move on. Admitting it publicly is part of dealing with it. And then you say, “What can I learn from it?” You’re not learning anything from your mistake if you justify it. You need to have confidence. One of the comments I hear is that I always seem to be in control, and I always seem to be confident. I laugh at that because sometimes that’s just appearance. But if I don’t appear confident, how can I expect people watching to have confidence in me? If I made a mistake and I’m going to change it, I’m going to explain what it should be and I’m going to stand up for it. This mistake did not destroy me. I’m not hanging my head. My shoulders aren’t drooping. On that Denver play, I responded, darn right I made mistake, and I feel terrible about it. What do you accomplish by trying to hide it? *(Ed Hochuli, NFL referee, in Bloomberg Businessweek magazine, April 16, 2012, as told to Keenan Mayo)*

How few there are who have courage enough to own their faults, or resolution enough to mend them! *(Ben Franklin)*

As Dennis The Menace is kneeling by his bed with his hands outstretched he looks up and says to God: “First of all, do I hafta admit something nobody can prove?” *(Hank Ketcham, in Dennis The Menace comic strip)*

A man is known by his books, his friends, and the mistakes he admits. *(Read by Allen Ludden on "Password Plus," NBC)*

I've learned to admit it when I'm scared because it takes courage to know when you ought to be afraid. *(James A. Michener, in Sayonara)*

Admit your own mistakes openly, maybe even joyfully. Encourage your associates to do likewise by commiserating with them. Never castigate. Babies learn to walk by falling down. If you beat a baby every time he falls down, he'll never care much for walking. *(Robert Townsend, in Up the Organization)*

Admit that your own private Mount Everest exists. That is half the battle. *(Hugh Macleod)*

When you have no one in your life who you can call and say, “I’m scared,” then your life is uninteresting, unfulfilling, superficial. You need somebody you can trust enough to say, “I need help.” *(Steven Soderbergh, in Vogue)*

Celebrating “National Hospital Admitting Personnel Week” at the hospital where I’m a registrar, we decorated our department with balloons and posters. I was registering an effervescent ninety-two-year-old woman who asked me what the festivity was for, and I explained. “Well, dear,” she said, “in all my years, I’ve learned – never admit to anything!” *(Regena L. Bee, in All in a Day’s Work)*

Never be ashamed to admit you were wrong. You're only saying that you're smarter today than you were yesterday. *(Dave Gilpin, in SQ: Boost Your Spiritual IQ)*

President Trump has made a jaw-dropping admission, said Tara Golshan in Vox.com. In an interview with Reuters last week, the former businessman confessed he hadn't appreciated just how tough the new job would be. "This is more work than in my previous life," he said. "I thought it would be easier." No kidding. Aside from the Senate's confirmation of Judge Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court, Trump's first 100 days were marked mostly by failure and frustration, including the disastrous attempt to repeal Obamacare, and the blocking of his controversial travel bans in court. He reversed his simplistic positions on several major foreign policy issues -- including China, NATO, and Syria -- and his border wall remains a fantasy. "No president is ever, really, ready for the job," said Chris Cillizza in CNN.com. But Trump came into office with a "minuscule" understanding of government and the legislative process, and has been shocked to discover that a president "can't just snap his fingers" and have his whims carried out. *(The Week magazine, May 12, 1017)*

A conference is just an admission that you want somebody to join you in your troubles. *(Will Rogers)*

Rolls-Royce never admits that its cars break down. They simply "fail to proceed." *(UPI)*

Men do not like to admit to even momentary imperfection. My husband forgot the code to turn off the alarm. When the police came, he wouldn't admit he'd forgotten the code. He turned himself in. *(Rita Rudner)*

I make mistakes; I’ll be the second to admit it. *(Jean Kerr, in The Snake Has All the Lines)*

Bad week for: Cybersecurity, after an Arkansas 6-year-old used her sleeping mother's thumbprint to unlock her iPhone and buy $250 worth of toys. Bethany Howell thought her phone had been hacked, but her daughter proudly explained, "No, Mommy, I was shopping." *(The Week magazine, January 13, 2017)*

A sure route to humiliation is to admit you paid what the car dealer was asking. *(Doug Larson, United Feature Syndicate)*

A man should never be ashamed to admit he is in the wrong, which is but saying in other words that he is wiser today than yesterday. *(Jonathan Swift)*

If you're trying to justify something, you're trying to escape from something you don't want to admit to. *(Teal Swan)*

Always acknowledge a fault. This will throw those in authority off their guard and give you an opportunity to commit more. *(Mark Twain)*

Under pressure, people admit to murder, setting fire to the village church, or robbing a bank, but never to being bores. *(Elsa Maxwell, columnist and hostess)*

The universe must be such as to admit the creation of observers within it. *(Brandon Carter, physicist)*

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