



Pastor's Nickel

Pastor's Nickel – Oops

I am so embarrassed. I had cut a corner and as a result got something completely wrong. Tyre and Sidon are in *Phoenicia*, NOT *Samaria*! I did not check my maps. I was wondering if I had it right and then got caught up with other things and did not go back to check my assumptions about where they were located geographically as I got down to writing my sermon. I now have to eat humble pie. I got it wrong. I broke one of the 10 ethical rules for pastors handed to me by my Ethics Professor in Seminary: “speak from what you know, not what you *think* you know.” So my options are to cover it up by making sure that sermon doesn’t go online, or I could hope that no one notices and carry on in the hope no one checks the facts, or I could do this...confess it and own up to getting it wrong. And this feels like it is the hardest of the choices. Will you think less of me? Will you mock me? Will your trust in me diminish? But that is the risk every time we confess our sins to one another and admit we made a poor choice or a deliberately hurtful choice or a sinful choice. And even though this route of confession feels like it is the hardest, it always turns out to be the right choice. *That's my nickel. Pastor Bob*