

WELCOME HOME

BEING REAL WITH GOD

Truly you are a God who hides himself... Isaiah 45:15 NIV

A REAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS DEVELOPED OVER TIME THROUGH...

- **AUTHENTICITY**

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life. Psalm 139:23-24 NLT

DISCUSSION: When was the last time you earnestly said to God “search my heart” and to “point out anything” to which He might take offense? What was that like for you?

- **BIBLE STUDY**

So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. Colossians 1:9-10 NLT

Genesis

John

Romans

DISCUSSION: On a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 being an expert), how well do you know God's word?

DISCUSSION: What keeps you from knowing God's word better? What can you do in order to get closer to God by knowing Him through His word?

- **WORSHIP**

You must worship the Lord, for he is a God who is passionate about his relationship with you. Exodus 34:14 NLT

How we worship is just as important as if we worship

Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: "Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. For I don't cheat, I don't sin, and I don't commit adultery. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.' "But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.' I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." Luke 18:9-14 NLT

Song "Humility" by Moi

DISCUSSION: What has been your experience with worship in the past? Do you shy away from connecting with God through worship? What would you like to see changed about yourself in your worship of Him?

- **CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**

Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16 NLT

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3:16-17 NLT

- **PRAYER**

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God... Philipians 4:6 NKJV

DISCUSSION: What's going on in your life about which you're not talking to God? In what ways are you not inviting Him into the details of your life? Where are you inviting Him into the details of your life?

PRAYER PROJECT: Sit quietly and meditate on Psalm 139:23-24. Repeat it over and over letting it roll around between your head and your heart; maybe even quietly mouthing the words to it. Earnestly ask the Lord to search you, test you, know you, and point out to you anything that He chooses. Listen carefully to what comes to mind (what's in your head and heart); pay attention to what thoughts and emotions He brings up inside of you. Finish your time with Him by offering Him a prayer of thanksgiving for your time together and what He has chosen to communicate to you.

Get into groups of 2-3 and share with one another your experience of God and what He brought up inside of you during that time. Close your time by praying for one another.

Remember, one of the most powerful things we can do in group is to confess to one another and pray for one another (James 5:16) so that we would find healing and ultimately transformation.