

BEING REAL WITH OURSELVES

THE JOURNEY TO AUTHENTICITY

1. THE FIRST STEP INTO AUTHENTICITY IS TO BE WILLING TO TAKE AN HONEST LOOK AT MYSELF

Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves... Romans 12:3 NLT

Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye. Luke 6:41-42 NAS

DISCUSSION: How are you going to take an honest look at your self? What additional resources will you need to help you? Are you willing to let others point out the truth of who you are and identify your blind spots?

DISCUSSION: What is it that makes looking at the truth about self so difficult? What things do we do in order to avoid making an honest assessment of self?

2. THE SECOND STEP IS TO DISCOVER MY STRENGTHS AND PUT THEM TO USE

In His grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. Romans 12:6 NLT

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others. 1 Peter 4:10 NIV

DISCUSSION: In what way do you focus on the inadequate parts of your life? What is it about focusing on the inadequate aspects that seems so natural to us versus focusing on the areas where we excel?

DISCUSSION: What are some of the gifts you believe God had given you? In what way are you using the gifts you've received in order to serve the body of Christ? What gifts are you holding onto that you're not using for the benefit of the body of Christ?

3. THE THIRD STEP IS TO DISCOVER MY PERSONAL WEAKNESSES AND THE AFFECT ON ALL MY RELATIONSHIPS

*If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth.
1 John 1:8 NLT*

Sin disturbed relations with God in everything and everyone... Romans 5:13 MES

WHAT IS MY CORE SIN?

Anger	Ephesians 4:31	NIV
Pride	Proverbs 16:5	ESV
Lying	Proverbs 12:22	GNT
Envy	James 3:16	NKJV
Greed	Colossians 3:5	NLT
Fear	Isaiah 8:13	NLT
Gluttony	Ezekiel 16:49	NLT
Lust	Colossians 3:5	NLT
Laziness	Ezekiel 16:49	NLT

DISCUSSION: What is your core sin? Are you willing to have us help you figure it out (kindly and gently)? Do you want healing? Are you willing to be honest and to confess to another in order to begin the journey towards reconciliation?

4. THE FOURTH STEP IS TO CONTINUALLY DISCUSS AND CONFESS MY CORE SIN WITH A SMALL GROUP OF CHRISTIANS.

*Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.
The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results.
James 5:16 NLT*

Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety. Proverbs 11:14 NKJV

PRAYER PROJECT: Take 7-10 minutes to be quiet and alone with God. Talk to Him about your core sin and about the degree in which it affects other relationships within your life. When you're done take some time to talk with another in your group about your conversation with God.