

WELCOME HOME

ICEBREAKER: Have you made Sandals your home church? Why or why not? Why do you feel at home here?

I. You are tired of pretending to be perfect.

Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly. Matthew 11:28-30 MES

Our people and our pastors are imperfect.

For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. Romans 3:23 NLT

DISCUSSION: Without using church or people's names, tell a story of how you were either made to feel like you had to be perfect or you how you tried because you thought that was what you ought to do?

II. You are burned out on playing religious games.

How terrible for you, teachers of the Law and Pharisees! You hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look fine on the outside but are full of bones and decaying corpses on the inside. In the same way, on the outside you appear good to everybody, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and sins. Matthew 23:27-28 GNT

DISCUSSION: What are some of the games that you play in order to hide the truth about the reality of the junk in your life? Why do you think they failed? Are you tired of hiding and covering up?

III. You are ready to get real

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you keep obeying my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 NLT

DISCUSSION: What are some reservations you have when it comes to being real? How has this group hindered that ability? How can they help you?

IV. If you are ready to follow the life style of Jesus

So Jesus grew both in height and in wisdom, and he was loved by God and by all who knew him. Luke 2:52 NLT

At Sandals Church we measure Christ-likeness by how well we relate to ourselves, God, others.

DISCUSSION: Are you willing to examine yourself, share your life, and begin pursuing a real relationship with God? In what way are you currently growing as Jesus grew, see Luke 2:52?

WE CHOSE THE NAME SANDALS BECAUSE...

- They reveal imperfections.
- They are simple and comfortable.

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news! Romans 10:15 NIV

PRAYER PROJECT: Take 5-7 minutes and talk to the Lord about what He desires to see happen. Ask Him to reveal to you what type of growth He would want to have in your life. Ask Him to show you where this coincides with some passages of Scripture.