

QUESTIONS

OPENING QUESTIONS - Use these questions to connect with others in your group:

1. What's your guilty pleasure?
2. What is your worst restaurant experience?

KEY POINTS - take a minute to review the key points from this weekend's message

1. The Church is full of hypocrites, but how we define hypocrite matters.
2. We will all fall short in some aspect of our life.
3. There is a gap between what we want to do and what we actually do, and a gap between who Jesus is and who we are.
4. Practice one: Acknowledge the gap
 - a. Honesty and transparency leads to liberation.
5. Practice two: Close the gap
 - a. You may impress people with your strengths, but we connect with people around our weaknesses.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THIS MESSAGE: Romans 7:15-25, 1 John 1:8-9, Psalm 32:3-5, Matthew 23:25-27

RESPOND

Have you ever dealt with this question? Either yourself or with someone else that was skeptical of the church?

Do you feel that you are a different person on the inside than you are on the outside? Do you think this is a good or bad thing?

Ben talked about how weakness connects with people more than sharing our strengths. Can you think of a time when you have found this to be true? Why do you think weakness resonates at a deeper level?

Read James 5:16. Do you have a person in your life that you can confess to? Someone that you trust and can be open about struggles without fear of judgement or condemnation??

APPLY

Acknowledging our humanity and imperfection takes a certain level of humility. What are some ways both individually and as a church, we can walk in humbleness rather than thinking we have everything right?

PRAY

Pray that we might become open, vulnerable, love people who have been hurt by the church, and that we might be witnesses to the reconciling power of God.