



Small Group Discussion Notes

Roots Run Deep

A Repentant Heart

Luke 18:9-14

October 15, 2023

Warm Up

Share about a time when you were a child/teen, and you did something you knew you weren't supposed to do.

Digging Deeper

Read Luke 18:9-14

What initial observations do you have about this parable?

Jesus addresses this parable "to some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else." In what ways or contexts are you tempted to look down on those around you? What leads you to do this?

What makes it so hard for us to be honest with one another and with God regarding our shortcomings?

Why is the man who acknowledged his sin the one whom Jesus says will be "justified before God?"

Who are the people you are most comfortable sharing your shortcomings with? What is it about these people that allows for such openness?

Jesus says in verse 14, "those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." What other passages of scripture can you think of that speak to this upside-down nature of the kingdom of God?

Next Steps

Read Matthew 4:17

The Greek verb used here for repent is "metanoēō" and this speaks to more than an intellectual change of mind, but a turning from sin toward the ways of God. Metanoia is a paradigm shift where we reject one way of thinking/believing for something new. We are speaking of a shift away from sin, toward God.

Fundamentally this is a work of the Holy Spirit, but what are practical steps you can take continue living in this new direction?

How can you encourage this type of shift in your home or with friends and family?

What does it look like to create safe relational contexts for people to be open about their struggles?

How can we seek to normalize confession and repentance?

Final Thoughts

Take time in silent prayer to confess your sins to God, and then pray together as a group for the Holy Spirit to bring about metanoia in your life - a shift away from sin and toward the things of God.