

## WEEK 2: STEP 1 - BECOMING AWARE OF YOUR NEED

### FACILITATOR'S NOTE:

- ✓ Start your group discussion with the “Check-in” question to help your members reflect back on their week and follow up on last week’s application challenge.
  - ✓ Review the “Big Idea” to help you gain clarity around the heart of this week’s message and focus your group’s discussion towards a clear direction.
  - ✓ Reflect on this week’s scripture passages and guide your group through the “Discuss” questions to initiate meaningful dialogue around key concepts or insights from this week’s message.
  - ✓ Move your group discussion to a deeper level by leading them through questions in “Apply”. Use discernment to customize these application questions to meet the needs & dynamics of your group.
- NOTE:** You do not have to cover all the questions provided in “Discuss” and “Apply”.
- ✓ Connect with God together as a group through this week’s “prayer practice”, which can be in the form of a prayer exercise or some guidance on what to pray for in relation to the message or application.

<b>CHECK-IN</b>	<p><i>God loves you...</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>when you make unwise choices</i></li> <li>2. <i>when you fail, even in the middle of your mess</i></li> <li>3. <i>while He waits for you to come home</i></li> <li>4. <i>not because you're good, but because He's no ordinary Father</i></li> </ol> <p>As you meditated on these 4 applications from last week’s message, how did it affect your decisions, thoughts, and feelings this past week?</p>
<b>BIG IDEA</b>	<p>God cares about the stuff that lies beneath the surface of your life, the stuff you hide in shame. He wants you to walk in awareness of your “mess” and to bring it to him, trusting him to love you through the change that is needed.</p>
<b>DISCUSS</b>	<p>Reflect on Proverbs 4:23</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Let’s assume we all have blindspots. Take a wild guess what yours might be.</li> <li>2. Do you know someone who lacks self-awareness? How does it impact his/her relationships, either with you or others?</li> <li>3. How distracted are you in your life? How fast are you moving through life these days? Is it possible that you’re running from something?</li> </ol>
<b>APPLY</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Many people buy into the lie that “ignorance is bliss”, keeping them stuck or even imprisoned by their unresolved pain. What holds you back from “flipping the cushions” of your life?</li> <li>2. Do you find it a struggle to bring your mess to Jesus? Do you try to clean yourself up before coming to Him, or do you wrestle with this idea that “Jesus is willing”?</li> </ol>

	<p>3. What next step can you take to become more aware of your heart's condition, or what next step can you take in dealing with what is being revealed in your life?</p>
<b>PRAYER PRACTICE</b>	<p>Psalms 139:23-24 is a prayer for awareness. Meditate on this passage for a few minutes and personalize it by paraphrasing it in your own words. Then take turns in your group so that each member prays his/her personalized prayer out loud.</p>

