

## 1. Get Acquainted: Icebreaker – Wants and Doings (10 min)

- What is something you want to do but just can't seem to get it done?
- What is something that you don't want to do but just keep doing it?
- Transformation:
  - What "wanting to doing" have you sees God change in your life?
  - What "doing but not wanting to" have you see God change to a not doing?

## 2. Worship: Worship God Who Knows You Inside and Out! (10 min)

### **Psalm 139:1-24**

O LORD, you have searched me and known me! <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. <sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. <sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

<sup>7</sup> Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! <sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, <sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. <sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," <sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

<sup>13</sup> For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. <sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

<sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! <sup>18</sup> If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you. <sup>19</sup> Oh that you would slay the wicked, O God! O men of blood, depart from me! <sup>20</sup> They speak against you with malicious intent; your enemies take your name in vain. <sup>21</sup> Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? <sup>22</sup> I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies.

<sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! <sup>24</sup> And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

## The Facilitator – Faithful Character In Crisis, Faith w/o Works is not Faith 10-11-20 James 2:14-26

### 3. Kingdom Centered Prayer:

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

1. Adoration - Worship the LORD, God Almighty, for His absolute integrity. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that He is trustworthy and that our eternal future with Him will have absolutely no corruption or discord!
2. Confession - How have you lived with a real gap between what you claim and how you live? Confess your hypocrisies to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you for being fraudulent *and that He would transform your character as only He can.*
3. Thanksgiving - Give thanks to Jesus for His integrity and the full scope of His work to save us! Thank Him for changing our status (forgiving and adopting us) *and* for renewing our nature (regenerating us by His Spirit).
4. Supplication, Others: Who do you know that lives with a noticeable gap between what they claim and how they live? Pray for them, asking the Lord to meet them in their brokenness and that He would heal them and grow their integrity.
5. Supplication, Personal: Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love and goodness so that you would be eager for good works. Pray that He would help you “trust Jesus by faith alone, but not by the kind of faith that is alone.”

### 4. Sermon Reflection:

**Proclamation of God’s Word Text:** James 2:14-26 (ESV)

**Title:** Faithful Character In Crisis: Faith Without Works Is Not Faith

**Teacher:** Tim Rice

#### **James 2:14-26 (10-11-20: Faith Without Works Is No Faith)**

Intro: What does it mean to be nominal? – Name but not behavior to match.

- Integration – Parts function as a whole, where have you experienced integration or integrity?

#### **WHAT IS OUR BASELINE?**

Why does it matter that the LORD is a God of integrity?

The heavenly beings shout together, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God to receive glory, and honor and power, for you created all things and by your will they existed and were created.”

What is it about God that makes him worthy and we are not worthy? What disqualifies you?

**SIN AS DISINTEGRATION** - What is wrong here?

Where are you dis-integrated? Which of your relationships are disintegrating? Why? Pray. Ask.

#### **JUSTIFICATION & SANCTIFICATION**

How does true faith in Jesus result in comprehensive change?

What do you gain from the work of Jesus on the Cross? - (Our Forgiveness)

What do we gain from is life of perfection? (Our Righteousness – we become adoptable)

What do we gain in His Resurrection? The Confirmation and Approval of God in the Work of Jesus

## 5. Mission: Faith Working Through Love, Reflection/Anticipation

- Think about this past week.
  - Where did you see love coming from faith?
  - Where did someone's believing become a loving doing?
- Think about the coming week.
  - Where are you going to be tempted to a doing void of loving?
    - How does Gospel reflection on Jesus' work for you change that?
  - What circumstance will drain you this week so much that you need to schedule some Gospel Re-fueling before you do anything else?

## 6. Jesus From Others:

Close your time together in letting each person share something they came to love about Jesus from something someone in the group shared during your time together.

- What do you love more about Jesus from what someone shared during our CG tonight?