

WEEK 4
LESSON OUTLINE

THE MAKING OF

BIG IDEA

Growth happens when we're honest with God about our brokenness.

BIBLE

Luke 18:9-14; 1 John 1:8-9; Mark 2:17; Psalm 139:23-24

ABOUT THIS WEEK

We are all sinners, each carrying things we're not proud of. If left unchecked, these can lead us to shame or self-righteousness. But at the heart of our faith is the confession that we are broken and need a Savior. True growth happens when we run to Jesus, not from Him—being honest about our brokenness allows Him to bring healing and transformation. **Growth happens when we're honest with God about our brokenness.**

WHAT?

Have you ever had a situation in life where you knew you should probably tell someone, but you decided to keep quiet for some reason? I'm willing to bet that one of two things happened. Either that situation got worse or keeping the secret may have eaten you up on the inside. If we aren't careful, this same thing can happen in our relationships with God. We can fool ourselves into thinking that keeping things hidden from Him makes them go away or somehow limits how much damage they can do, but the opposite is true. Keeping our brokenness and sin a secret can either develop into shame within us, or we fool ourselves into self-righteousness by thinking we're better than we truly are.

SO WHAT?

In Luke 18:9-14 Jesus tells the parable of two men who pray to God. One of them uses it as an opportunity to brag about how "holy" they are, while the other is honest about His desperate need for God to intervene. The passage tells us that God honors the man who is open and honest. This paints a picture to all of us of how God responds to our humility and honesty. By presenting our "illness" to the "Doctor", we are met by a loving Father who wants to help and who wants to heal us. If any of us are going to experience spiritual growth, we must learn that **growth happens when we're honest with God about our brokenness.** And this isn't a one-time thing. It's a daily decision. It's a life of realizing that we have received salvation through Christ, but it is through a life of following Jesus that we are being made more and more like Him every day.

NOW WHAT?

Here is how we do that:

- **ASK GOD TO SEARCH OUR HEARTS** – Psalms 139:23-24 presents a prayer from David where He gives God permission to help him identify his brokenness.
- **PRESENT OUR WHOLE SELVES TO HIM** – Go to the doctor. Trust His direction. Allow Him to heal us.
- **TRUST GOD WITH THE NEXT STEPS** – Typically when God points out something in us that is broken, it requires a change. This obedience is what leads to healing.

If our deepest desire is to become more like Jesus, we must learn that **growth happens when we're honest with God about our brokenness.**