

WARMING UP

1. What are some of the sins that we consider slightly more “acceptable”? Which ones do we perceive to be “awful”? Why do we often think this way? How does God see the situation?

DIGGING IN

What is a sinful person to do to get right with God?

2. *Lean into the Word (5:1-3)*. What does it look like to “press in on [Jesus] to hear the Word of the God”? To what extent does this describe your practice? How so?
3. *Set aside excuses (5:4-5)*. What “legitimate” reasons does Peter have to rebuff Jesus’ command? Why does he choose to defer to the Lord? Make a list of some of the excuses we use that keep us from getting right with God.
4. *Expect things to change (5:6-7)*. Do you actually expect Jesus to alter the course of your life? Why or why not? What is your part in this work of radical transformation?
5. *Own the problem (5:8-10a)*. How is Peter’s response in 5:8 similar to the prophet’s in Isaiah 6:5? What do both men recognize about themselves and about God that causes this reaction? Discuss Pastor Todd’s statement that “until we get a right perspective on our sin, we will be unable to walk with Jesus as we ought to.”
6. *Accept his grace (5:10b)*. What is Jesus really communicating to Peter when he says, “Do not be afraid”? How does it impact you to know that “Jesus meets us where we are and takes us as we are”? Why is it such a blessing that our relationship with him is based on his grace rather than on anything about us?
7. *Find your purpose (5:10c)*. How are our conversion (to be disciples of Jesus) and our commission/call (to make disciples of Jesus) inseparably tied together? How would you define your purpose in life?
8. *Leave everything behind (5:11)*. When did you become a follower of Christ? What were the circumstances? How can you continue to leave everything behind as you pursue the Lord moving forward?

BREAKING OUT

9. What step(s) do you need to take to get right with God? What is holding you back from doing that right now? How can you help one another in this regard?