

The Indispensable Mirror

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REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will work to get past the layers that are blocking the truth from being known.
- I will ask myself the question: Am I quicker to pass judgment on or gossip about other people than I am to see and feel the painful truth about myself?
- I will ask God to reveal the truth about my character, speech, habits, ego — as much truth as I can bear.
- When reading the Bible, I will ask God to reveal to me who he wants me to be.
- Instead of defending, resisting or rationalizing, I will be open to learning the truth about me.
- I will read the Bible with a repentant spirit.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

If you caught last week's message then you now know you have blind spots. But what are they, and how do we identify them? The good news is that God hasn't created us to walk alone. You are part of a community that can not only sustain you when you're down but also help you see and change your blindspots. This week we talk about the tools God uses to help us to identify and tackle our blind spots.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you have a person in your life that you trust when discussing your blindspots?
2. Why is having a trusted friend or spouse important when it comes to our blind spots? Why is having a trusted friend or spouse helpful for our faith formation?

3. Read together Matthew 20:17-21. What do you think about these characters in this story? What do you think of the Mother's actions in this story?

4. Matt notes that the actions of the Mom may not be altruistic, the "Mom can convince herself this is purely an act of altruism, of motherly love. She's not asking anything for herself, of course." Have you ever found yourself in a similar situation? A situation in which you thought you were helping someone but it was actually an ego blindspot?

5. How does understanding our own blindspots and wounds help us avoid a situation like the mother's?

6. Matt adds that at times these blindspots seep into our communities, "Churches sometimes call small groups "growth groups," but if we collude with each other, if we connive with each other to help each other fail to understand the truth about ourselves, they can actually turn into "growth prevention groups." We can keep each other from growing." How do you keep your small group from falling into this type of trap?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will tell the last 10 percent when it needs to get told.
- I will listen in humble, repentant openness and seek to learn.
- I will ask a trusted friend to tell me the truth about me.
- I will pray and ask God to show me my blind spots.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Matthew 20:17-28
- Ephesians 4:15
- Luke 9:46-49
- Luke 9:54
- John 20:3-4

Prayer Request(s)
