

Notes | February 4, 2024

Friendship: How to breakthrough hypocrisy and insecurity?

Studies on loneliness show that in 2023 77% of Americans experience it! A common misconception of loneliness is that it means you're alone. In reality, loneliness is the feeling of being alone—even when you're not alone. Many of us find ourselves lonely because we don't have deep friendships, or we put up barriers to making them. However, when we see ourselves loved and approved by God, and choose to become the friends we search after, we can break through the barriers of hypocrisy and insecurity.

Key Scripture | Mark 12:31

The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.'

Related Scriptures

Genesis 2:18, Proverbs 17:17, Proverbs 27:17, Proverbs 27:6, Proverbs 13:20, Matthew 7:3-5, Matthew 20: 26-28, Matthew 3:16-17

Icebreakers:

Q: Which of your friends knows you the best?



Key Thoughts and Reflections:

- I. What feeds you forms you.
 - Q: Is making friends an easy or difficult process for you?
 - Q: Have you ever struggled with loneliness? What helped you in that season?
 - Q: Who are friends that have helped form who you are today?
- II. Become the friend who you are looking for.
 - Q: In what ways do you catch yourself being a hypocrite in relationships?
 - Q: What do you look for when you're choosing to make a friend?
 - Q: In friendship you tend to attract who you are. What can you grow in order to become a better friend? (ex: compassion, encouragement, trust, etc.)
- III. To breakthrough your insecurities you must know God approves of you, then you'll
- be free to serve and love others.
 - Q: What areas in your life have caused insecurity in you?
 - Q: How do you act when you start to feel insecure in relationships?
 - Q: When you feel most secure about yourself, how do you act? What can you do more of to regularly find your security in God?

Get Practical

We breakthrough hypocrisy and insecurity in relationships when we become the friend we are looking for and see ourselves approved by God! Pray this week asking God to show you where you are hypocritical and insecure in relationships, and what it looks like to be more like Jesus in response to that.

We all need friends and a great way to make friends is through a small group! Join a Group this season: text GROUPS to 37748 to find a community that can help you get planted, take root, and flourish this year!