

Series: “Firsthand, by Ryan and Josh Shooks”

Sermon: Desperate to be Known

Primary Texts: Genesis 2-3, 1 John 1:9, James 5:16

Discussion Guide:

- In the sermon Frederick Buechner is quoted as saying, “What we hunger for perhaps more than anything else is to be known in our full humanness, and yet that is often just what we also fear more than anything else.”
 - What do you think he means by being “known in our full humanness”?
 - Do you agree that most of us want this? why or why not?
 - Why do we fear it?
- Read Genesis 2:27 and Genesis 3:7.
 - How do you interpret these?
- A few quotes shared in the sermon:
 - “...we are only as sick as our secrets...”
 - What do you think this means?
 - “Christianity is meant to be lived in the light.”
 - What do you think this means?
- Read 1 John 1:9.
 - Why should we confess our sins to God?
 - How does this help us know that we were wrong and why is that important?
 - How does this help us know we are forgiven and why is this important?
 - Why do we neglect this?
- Read James 5:16.
 - Why should confess our sins to another Christian?
 - Why is comradery important in our sin struggle?
 - What is accountability and why is it essential?
- How can you be someone whom your Christian brothers and sisters feel comfortable sharing their sins with?
- How do you balance being approachable and holding someone accountable for their sins? (see Galatians 6:1, Titus 3:10, Matthew 18:15-19)