Characters

Purity // Week 2 // SWITCHgroup Questions

Who are you when no one else is watching? Reputation is what others think you are; character is who God knows you are. Sadly, more people are concerned about their reputation than their character. Honor, purity, loyalty, integrity, and gratitude are just a few of the forgotten virtues in our culture. This shows up in what we do and say, but also in the "characters" of the messages we send on our computers and cell phones. This series explores how to develop God's character in you by taking a look at different characters in the Bible.

Walk Away Point: Purity is a gift and a choice.

Leaders: Choose questions from these suggestions to help your group process, personalize, and take action on this week's message. Don't feel like you need to do them all and try not to read from the sheet. MAKE SURE YOU GET TO THE GROUP CHALLENGE BECAUSE WE'LL USE THOSE "CHARACTERS" TONIGHT!

Icebreakers:

- 1. What comes to mind when you think of purity?
- 2. Do you think teenagers, for the most part, try to live pure? Why or why not?

What do I think?

- 1. If purity means to be free from guilt or evil; innocence. Who is the most pure person you know?
- 2. What are some ways we need to be pure besides sexually?
- 3. Can you relate to woman at the well in the video? If so, how?
- 4. Do you think purity is a difficult character quality to develop? Why or why not?

What does God say?

- 1. Romans 8:1 says (NIV) *There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus*. What does that reality mean for you?
- 2. 1 John 1:9 says (NIV) *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness*. If we are forgiven for all of our sins for all time, why do you think it's so important to confess our daily sins to God?
- 3. 1 Timothy 4:12 says (NIV) Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and it purity. What are some practical ways you can be an example to believers in purity?

What steps will I take?

- 1. Spend some time in prayer alone in your group and ask God to reveal any areas in your life that are not pure. Put 1 John 1:9 into practice right now.
- 2. If you are ready to make a commitment to purity, share that desire with your group and why you decided to be pure.

Group Challenge:

As a group, using the provided pen and paper, take some time to write a letter to God expressing your desire to be pure. If you don't mind if your letter is read to the group (without your name of course), turn it in to your leader. We will then put the letters in a box and draw from it to determine which letters will be read tonight. Really make this a special time with you and God.