





# COMMUNITY GUIDE

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## WEEKLY APPLICATION

**TAKEAWAY:** Knowing God and knowing ourselves are interconnected and continually evolving processes.

**HEAD CHANGE:** True transformation comes from understanding we are deeply loved sinners, not just sinners.

**HEART CHANGE:** Our false selves prevent us from experiencing God's full blessing and love.

**LIFE CHANGE:** Vulnerability and honesty in community are crucial for spiritual growth.

## OVERVIEW

In our exploration of spiritual growth, we delve into the profound interplay between knowing God and knowing ourselves. The story of Peter's journey with Jesus illustrates how our understanding of both God and self evolves over time. As we witness Peter's transformation from an impulsive fisherman to a devoted disciple, we're reminded that our own spiritual journey is not linear, but a continuous cycle of discovery. The key message here is that genuine transformation occurs when we allow God to reveal our true selves to us, just as He did with Peter. This process can be uncomfortable, even painful, but it's essential for our spiritual formation. We're challenged to consider: How well do we really know ourselves? Are we willing to let God show us our true nature, both the beautiful and the flawed? As we grow in our knowledge of God, we inevitably grow in self-awareness, leading to a deeper, more authentic faith.

*"I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."*

Luke 14:18

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Reflect on the story of Peter's journey with Jesus. How does Peter's gradual self-discovery mirror your own spiritual journey?
2. The sermon highlights the importance of knowing ourselves as "deeply loved sinners." How might this perspective change the way we approach our relationship with God and others?
3. The pastor shares vulnerably about his own struggles as an Enneagram 3. How comfortable are you with acknowledging your own weaknesses and temptations? What makes this difficult?
4. Discuss the concept of the "false self." Can you identify areas in your life where you might be projecting a false image rather than your true self?

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

Lord, we thank you for your unconditional love and we ask for the courage to live authentically, embracing both our belovedness and our need for growth. Help us to humble ourselves before you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**IN THIS TOGETHER!**