



## Session 1

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### **BIG IDEA**

We can overcome persistent sin in our lives.

Sin is anything in our lives (Speech, Thoughts and Actions) that goes against the will of God.

### **GROUP OPENER**

Without sharing who think to someone you grew up with and a struggle they had. Share in very broad terms what that struggle was and its impact on those around them.

### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

- Read this longer passage Luke 18:9-14. Twice out loud, in different versions of the Bible – everyone listens.
- What are some significant observations you have about this text? What stood out? What didn't you like? What was confusing?
- What does this passage teach us about God? How does it change how I see God?
- What does this passage teach us about humanity/ourselves? How would it change how I treat others?
- What does this passage teach us about obedience? How should it affect the way I live?

February 23  
WEEKEND

### **As a Group**

#### **Discussion:**

Sin, especially persistent sin can feel very private. We can fool ourselves into believing it isn't a problem, it only impacts us, it is not that big of a deal. The truth is that our sin always has an impact beyond what we think.

That is why in James 5:16 he encourages people to "confess your sins to one another so that you can be healed."

**Read:** Romans 2:6-8

**Questions:** What is it about our sin that makes us hesitant to share it with others?

What about our sin that makes it difficult to identify?

Why is it so much easier to see sin in others than in ourselves?

What are some ways we can start to accept a broken spirit and a humble spirit?

How can you do a better job of keeping score of the grace of God in your life?

Why is it easy for us to marginalise our sin as "just struggles"?

### **ACTION STEPS**

*I will statement...*

- Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. Put it in the form, "I Will \_\_\_\_\_". Make it concrete, simple, and achievable.
- Share your "I Will" statement with the group.

### **ON YOUR OWN**

What is a sin that you want God to start defeating in your own life?

How can you start to accept the responsibility for your own sin?

## **9 Steps to Overcoming Persistent Sin.**

1. Admit I have a struggle I cannot overcome without God.
2. Acknowledge the breadth and impact of my sin.
3. Understand the origin, motive, and history of my sin.
4. Repent to God for how my sin replaced and misrepresented him.
5. Confess to those affected for harm done, and seek to make amends.
6. Restructure my life to rely on God's grace and his Word to transform my life.
7. Implement the new structure with humility and flexibility.
8. Persevere in the new life and identity to which God has called me.
9. Steward all of my life for God's glory.