



**The Good Fight
Fight to Be the Real Deal**

Want to know the best way to live an authentic life as a follower of Jesus? Own and confess your mistakes... Jesus has taken care of the rest.

Scripture:

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength to do his work. He considered me trustworthy and appointed me to serve him, even though I used to blaspheme the name of Christ. In my insolence, I persecuted his people. But God had mercy on me because I did it in ignorance and unbelief. Oh, how generous and gracious our Lord was! He filled me with the faith and love that come from Christ Jesus. This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all.

1st Timothy 1:12-15

If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

1st John 1:10

But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

1st Timothy 1:16

Icebreaker and Intro Questions:

1. What's one thing that few people know about you?
2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Sermon, scripture, video, etc.)

Discussion Questions

3. Eddie asked, “How do you feel about the word, ‘sinner’?” What’s your reaction to that word when people use it to describe themselves or others?
4. Have someone read 1st Timothy 1:12-15 aloud. What do you notice? What do you wonder?
5. Eddie shared: “Everyone who has ever encountered Jesus – everyone who has ever caught a glimpse of the kind of community Jesus wants to build – comes to a defining moment. Do you know what that moment is? It’s the moment when we discover that being a part of a called-out community requires us to change. I’ll say it this way: it’s the moment that requires me to deal with me.” Have you had a moment like that?
6. Read 1 John 1:10 out loud. Why is it difficult for us to acknowledge our sinfulness to others?
7. Read 1st Timothy 1:16. How do Paul’s words and testimony challenge you?
8. Eddie challenged us that we can live authentically and “own our sins and drag them into the light where they have FAR LESS POWER over us.” Have you ever come clean and brought something into the light and seen its power over you lessen?
9. As you close your discussion, have the group take a moment to be silent and instead of praying with words, take a quiet pause to be aware of God’s loving, kind presence. What do you sense He wants you to take with you from this discussion and from His Word?

Additional Resources:

- We all need people that we can be real with – to take off our masks and talk about the parts of our lives that need to come into the light of Jesus’ light and redemption. Do you have someone like that? Who might you want to reach out to this week?
- Want to learn more about the book of 1 Timothy? Watch this video from the Bible Project that gives an illustrated overview: [1 Timothy](#).
- Everywhere Westsiders go this fall, we want to be known as people who Make It Awesome. We will choose joy, show up for worship weekly, build life-changing friendships, and live selflessly. For resources, visit www.wschurch.org/awesome.

Notes: