

Essentials 2: Inside Out

I. Announcements & Prayer

1. **Simply for Women** January 28th 6 - 8 PM
2. **Deeper Life** - January 20th 5 PM
3. **Better Together Small Group Conference** - Friday, Feb 8th & Saturday, Feb 9th
RSVP on The Neighborhood form
4. **Baptisms** - February 17th at 11 am - RSVP on The Neighborhood form
5. Take your group to the movies - ***"The Least of These"*** is a true story about a missionary who lived in India. See the trailer at this website - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGaxUI5I1po&feature=youtu.be>

II. Ice Breaker Questions

- 1) How old were you when you came to the realization that your parents were not as dumb as you thought? What brought you to that realization? Some of you may not think they have ever been smart.
- 2) What is your cleaning routine? How often do you clean and what inspires you to clean? If you have never been inspired to clean, we want to hear from you, too! Do you have special products you use to clean with or a certain day of the week that you clean?

III. Discussion Questions

Pastor Doyle started the sermon by reviewing that Jesus said loving the Lord our God is most important. He reminded us that we don't want anything to come between us and our relationship with God. He likened it to having a dirty windshield. It is hard to see very far in front of you and have good perspective.

Read Luke 11:38-40 (NIV) ³⁸ But the Pharisee was surprised when he noticed that Jesus did not first wash before the meal. ³⁹ Then the Lord said to him, "Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. ⁴⁰ You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also?"

- 1) When you were a child, who insisted that you wash up before meals? Who insisted that you wore clean clothes? How did you react to this encouragement?
- 2) In the scripture above, how does Jesus turn the tables on His host? What is His basic point about the religious Pharisees' approach to God?
- 3) Why do you think Jesus wants us to focus on the inside part of who we are? How do you describe that inside part of you to other people? What words do you use?

4) Pastor Doyle gave us a list of 6 methods of dealing with our inner life. What do you remember about his descriptions? Which of these have you experienced?

Emotional Hoarders Emotional Teflon Emotional Bombs
Emotional Voids Emotional Dumpers Emotional Health

5) **Read Ezekiel 11:19** (NIV) ¹⁹ I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.

Who is our best helper? What does God do for us?

6) **Psalms 51:1-12** (NIV '78) ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. ² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. ⁶ Surely you desired truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

What was David's process of confessing his sin?

7) Pastor gave us 4 tools this week. Have you ever used them? How have you used them?

 **The Lord's Prayer**

 **Apostles' Creed**

 **Who I am in Christ** <https://fcm.org/about-us/#!/who-i-am-in-christ>

 **The Blood of Jesus**

How can we pray for each other today?



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