



Rooted Group Leaders Guide

Week of October 22, 2017

Series: Masks Week 1 * Hiding from God

FOCUS:

There's the side of you everyone else sees, and then there's the real you. Tired of wearing the masks? All of us have them and we are going to ask God to teach us to drop the masks and to bring out the real us.

INSIGHTS: Genesis 2:25 and Genesis 3:1-21

PLAN FOR THE MEETING

1. Facilitate Relationship Building: While sharing in drinks or food, ask your group this **Icebreaker Question:**

What was your favorite costume or mask you wore as a child? How differently did you act while wearing it?

2. Prayer Time

Ask for prayer requests, and spend some time praying specifically for each other in your group.

3. Last Week's Challenge Review:

As a disciple of Jesus, we will find a need and meet it and we will find a hurt and heal it.

How did you step up to the challenge and intentionally live this out?

4. Scripture & Discussion:

Read Genesis 2:25 and Genesis 3:1-21.

These verses tell about how Adam and Eve experienced shame and hid from God after they sinned.

- In what ways are you currently hiding? Are you hiding from God, from yourself, from your hurt or hiding your addictions? Explain.
- What are some things you would suggest to someone to help them stop hiding and remove the mask?
- What does the fact that Adam and Eve felt no shame before their sin and that they felt shame after their sin tell us about the effects of sin?
- What areas of life do you know you're probably hypocritical? What could you do to address it?
- How have you experienced satan's shame game? How has shame impacted you?
- Why is it so easy for us to believe the lies that are caused by shame?
- Where are you with God? Be honest in your answer. Where do you need the most improvement?
- How can you take the shame you have experienced and use it to grow stronger?
 - How can you use your story to have an impact on others' lives?

5. **CHALLENGES:**

For the Group:

How are you going to intentionally share the hope of Christ with your cause during the month of October? How about during the Thanksgiving season?

Causes that I (Pastor Dave) knows of:

- The Salvation Army
- A neighbor to one of the Rooted Group members.
- A family of one of our church members who is not a part of the church
- A single mom & a fringe family
- Connecting our younger generations of the church with the older generations of the church

If you are struggling with coming up with a cause, list out 2 to 3 organizations that minister to the needs of others area that come to mind. Then talk about a neighbor or two from group members who could benefit from your group sharing the hope of Christ with them.

Pray over that list and allow God to shape within the hearts of your group members your "cause" and then don't sit on it, act on it.

If you have not let Pastor Dave know who / what your cause is, please let me know. Text (218-820-3156) or email pastordave@cohm.com

Personal Challenge:

When we dwell on our shame, we believe a lie. One of the best ways to deal with shame is to stop focusing on the lie and focus on God's truth in the Bible instead.

Take time this week to read the following verses that show the power of God's forgiveness and how it can remove all shame from our lives: Isaiah 1:18, 1 John 1:9, Psalm 103:12, Titus 2:14, Ephesians 1:7, Romans 8:1, Micah 7:19 and Psalm 103:2-4.

An important way to deal with shame is to release that burden that is hiding inside you by confessing it to both God and others. Take time in prayer to talk to God about the shame that is hindering your relationship with Him. Next, talk it over with someone you trust like a parent, friend, mentor or pastor. Allow God to speak truth through them and allow that person to assist you in getting the help you need in overcoming your shame.

Personal Prayer and Reflection:

- Confess to God the ways that hiding from God is damaging your relationship with Him.
- Ask God to help you. Allow Him to clothe you in His love and grace instead of hiding from Him.
- Have an honest talk with God about where your relationship is with Him currently. Commit to Him that you will make it stronger.
- Ask God to speak to you through this series to call you to be more authentic in all areas of life and to remove all hypocrisy.
- Thank God for all of the sin and shame that He has delivered you from. Take time to praise Him.
- Pray for those that you know are burdened by guilt and shame. Ask God to deliver them.