

NO PERFECT PEOPLE ALLOWED

#1: LOSING MY NEED TO PRETEND

HOW DO WE MOVE TOWARD AUTHENTICITY?

1. BEGIN TO _____

MATTHEW 23:14 *WOE TO YOU, TEACHERS OF THE LAW AND PHARISEES, YOU HYPOCRITES! YOU DEVOUR WIDOWS' HOUSES AND FOR A SHOW MAKE LENGTHY PRAYERS.*

MATTHEW 26:38 *THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "MY SOUL IS OVERWHELMED WITH SORROW TO THE POINT OF DEATH. STAY HERE AND KEEP WATCH WITH ME."*

2. BECOME A _____

LUKE 7:34 *THE SON OF MAN CAME EATING AND DRINKING, AND YOU SAY, 'HERE IS A GLUTTON AND A DRUNKARD, A FRIEND OF TAX COLLECTORS AND "SINNERS."*

*SEE EVERYONE AS A _____

*REMEMBER YOU ARE _____

*FOCUS ON _____

GALATIANS 6:1 *...IF SOMEONE IS CAUGHT IN A SIN, YOU WHO ARE SPIRITUAL SHOULD RESTORE HIM GENTLY. BUT WATCH YOURSELF, OR YOU ALSO MAY BE TEMPTED. CARRY EACH OTHER'S BURDENS, AND IN THIS WAY YOU WILL FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST.*

3. _____

ACTS 19:18 *MANY OF THOSE WHO BELIEVED NOW CAME AND OPENLY CONFESSED THEIR EVIL DEEDS.*

MATTHEW 3:6 *CONFESSING THEIR SINS, THEY WERE BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER.*

TITUS 1:16 *THEY CLAIM TO KNOW GOD, BUT BY THEIR ACTIONS THEY DENY HIM.*

DEFINITION: CONFORMING TO REALITY AND THEREFORE WORTHY OF TRUST, RELIANCE, OR BELIEF.

*GIVE UP TRYING TO PLEASE EVERYONE IN MY LIFE

*PURSUE THE COURAGE TO EXPRESS WHAT I TRULY VALUE, ENJOY AND LOVE EVEN IF I THINK THE PERSON I'M TALKING TO WILL DISAGREE OR DISAPPROVE.

*ACKNOWLEDGE IT OPENLY WHEN I GET SOMETHING WRONG, INSTEAD OF GIVING IN TO THE TEMPTATION TO HIDE IT OR MANAGE IT OR PUT A POSITIVE SPIN ON IT.

WHAT A GOOD ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM/PERSON WILL HAVE:

· LOOK FOR CONFIDENTIALITY AS PARAMOUNT.

· LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHOM YOU ALREADY KNOW OR HAVE A CONNECTION WITH SUCH AS A COMMON INTEREST OR SEASON IN LIFE.

· LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHOM YOU RESPECT, TRUST, ARE MATURE IN THEIR FAITH AND CHARACTER, AND FROM WHOM YOU CAN LEARN SO YOU CAN DEVELOP CLOSENESS AND SHARE SHORTCOMINGS!

· LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHO MAINTAIN A LOVING AND RESPECTFUL ATTITUDE!

· PARTICIPANTS NEED TO RESPECT THE FEELINGS AND TIME OF OTHERS, AND TO SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE.

SO, WHAT IS THE FINAL OBSTACLE REMAINING? THE COMMITMENT TO MAKE IT CONTINUAL. ACCOUNTABILITY IS NOT JUST FOR A TIME, IT IS FOR ALL TIMES, AND REQUIRES OUR DISCIPLINE AND DEDICATION TO KEEP AT IT. IF WE STOP, WE SOON GO BACK TO OUR FEARS AND COMPLACENCY.