

~How you can nurture others into a heart-focused community

*Act Out-6 minutes or less

Objective isn't to create communities appearing to have sin under control. The objective is to nurture a place where people can stop faking they have sin under control. Where they can come out of hiding/let others into their sin and failure. There, sin loses power, and we can be healed-trusting Christ's redemption, forgiveness and repentance. It's messy but utterly healthy. Those who live in it become free. ...And as they learn to receive love...they sin less.

Love is the process of meeting needs

We were all created with limitations

When we bluff like we have none-we never get loved

When we wear a mask-only our mask gets loved

***Ro. 6:14** How? *We risk to believe who Jesus says we are*
Let's start with our Power!!

The Christian life is not about changing into someone else, but living out of who I already am.

*Core of your being's fused w/Jesus. He now lives in you! **Ga2:20**

*Youve a power greater than will power. Resurrection lives in you

*You are fully holy and righteous. **2nd Cor. 5:17, 21, Eph. 4:24**

*The most real you does not want to get away with anything.

*The most real you deeply desires to love and obey from the heart.

*You have a shame-free identity-Hebrews 12:2

*You are never condemned or resented

Now, from our power, to our protection of others.

***Protection vs. accountability**

Protectors are looking for a way in; what it will take for them to be trusted enough to influence, with wisdom, insight, discernment. All with the goal of heartfelt obedience to Jesus.

Galatians 6:2

We give ourselves a self-entitlement in hurt, wounding, pain

Black spot in front of my eyes made up of such statements:

“God, I don’t think you can satisfy as much as this sin.”

“God, I’ve always been this way. It has always won. I don’t believe you’re powerful enough to change that.”

“God, there is something uniquely wrong with me.”

“God, I don’t believe you have been fully good to me.”

!!Sin cycle-explain! The cycle is broken whenever I choose to tell a trusted friend the sin I am intending to commit.

~Randy Thompson-me on my bike ride

Now, from our power and protection, to teaching Trust!!

Humility is trusting God and others with me.

The interplay between humility, trust and love.

...Humility allows me to trust another

...Trusting allows me to receive the love of another

You can learn information and knowledge from anyone. But trust comes in through the heart. And the heart has to come under to receive. They cannot gain wisdom, insight, discernment w/out it.

From power, to protection, to teaching trust, to Earning Trust!

**To the degree that I trust you is the degree to which I'll let you love me, no matter how much love you have for me.*

We get to nurture heart-focused relationships of love. (R:6:14)

- *We get to offer an environment where the consequences of telling on yourself is different than being caught.
- *Where it is less important that anything is fixed, but that nothing is hidden
- *We get to woo out the new heart rather than appeal to the flesh
- *We get to process wrong privately; not shaming in front of others
- *We get to be winnable
- *We get to ask, "How am I affecting you?"
- *We get to tell them *our* fears, pain, failures, confusion, doubts
- *We get to create an atmosphere of affirmation
 - Affirmation-does not puff up but humbles*
 - Pr. 27:4- "Let another praise you/not your own mouth"*
 - Clarifies my identity, develops character, heals my wounds*
- *We get to give another a safe place to fail
- *We get to dream with them of God's destiny far greater than their own capacities and potential
- *We get to teach diff. between compliance/heartfelt obedience
- *We get to teach them how to read Scripture w/out a shame and moralism filter **John 14:15, 23**
- *We get to teach that grace is not a theological position, but a relational way of seeing and living
- *We get to never ask or expect them to perform for us
- *We get to teach how to break the sin cycle
- *We get to teach them how to pursue vertical forgiveness

1 Peter 5:5 “What if repentance wasn’t a promise from God but a gift to God from you? **2nd Timothy 2:24-26**

(I must forgive the offender (vertical) for **my** sake.

*We get to draw closer after they fail

In such an environment, others are more creative, purposeful, sacrificial, motivated and productive.

Protection and Permission

Love is the process of meeting needs

*I must acknowledge I have needs

*I must express a desire for you to meet one of my needs
with an expression of your love

*I must then choose to let you meet my needs.
(that “letting” is the trust I place in you)

*When I trust I will receive your love

*When my needs are met, I am fulfilled

Explain staff meeting w/affirmation tool-Sweet Tomatoes