

GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION

CONNECT

Share your highs and lows for the year. What were the highest and lowest moments for you in 2017?

LEARN & APPLY

Read Luke 4:31-41. What stands out to you in this passage? Why?

- Luke says that Jesus had “authority” (vv. 32, 36). What does authority normally mean to you? Where do you see it in your experiences?
- Does being with people in authority make you more or less willing to be yourself?
- What is Jesus’ authority like? What about his authority attracted brokenness?

Read also Genesis 3:1-10. In Genesis, the people hid their shame from God. In Luke 4, the unclean spirit wanted nothing to do with God’s presence in Jesus.

- Why do we hide? Why are we afraid to show our brokenness?
- What happens to our brokenness when we try to hide it from God?
- What happens when we hide it from our community in Christ?

We are not meant to carry our burdens of failure and shame alone. They’re heavy. It takes trust to “bear one another’s burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.” What hidden burden are you carrying that you could share with your group? As you share, support each other in grace and make a plan to follow up in future weeks.

PRAY

Open both hands up to God, and go around the circle as you pray. With one hand, give God your own brokenness in prayer. Then with the other hand, pray for the brokenness or burden of the person on your right.