
Trait # 2 GENUINE ACCOUNTABILITY

ACCOUNTABILITY GROUPS:

Why They're Not All They Are Cracked Up To Be

THE TRUTH ABOUT HUMAN NATURE:

- ✓ When it comes to "Shame-Based Sins" – **people lie!**
- ✓ Without authority & consequences – It's just a **pity party.**

GENUINE ACCOUNTABILITY:

What Real Accountability Looks Like & Why We Need It

AN ACCOUNTABLE LIFESTYLE IS . . .

- ① **Transparent** – A "Glass House" Mindset.
Jeremiah 23:24 & Proverbs 15:3/ James 5:16/ Matthew 5:14-16
- ② **Open To Correction** – An "Open Door" Policy.
Compare 2 Samuel 11:1-12:25 (see 12:11-13) & 2 Chronicles 26 (see 26:16-23)
Proverbs 19:27/ Proverbs 12:1 & 17:10

WE NEED IT BECAUSE . . .

- ① We all have a **traitor within.**
Romans 7:18-23/ 1 John 1:8-10 & Proverbs 20:9/ 1 Corinthians 10:11-13
- ② Anonymity breeds **sin** – Transparency breeds **best behavior.**
Ephesians 5:8-9/ 1 Timothy 5:24-25 & Ecclesiastes 12:14
- ③ The Christian life was never meant to be **lived alone.**
Proverbs 27:17/ Hebrews 10:24-25/ James 5:16

A FINAL THOUGHT ABOUT "BUTTING IN"

How To Receive It & When To Do It

Proverbs 12:1/ Galatians 6:1-2/ 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12/ Proverbs 9:7-8 & 23:9

- ✓ Look for the "**ounce of truth.**"
- ✓ With Christians – **Butt in.**
With non-Christians – **Mind your own business.**
With those who won't listen – **Save your breath.**

Growth Group Homework

For the week of September 18, 2005

Welcome to the Fall quarter of Growth Groups!

This week we kick off our Fall Growth Group quarter. Your first meeting will include a potluck dinner, time to get acquainted, as well as time to discuss your Growth Group Covenant. The homework has been shortened this week to allow ample time to accomplish this.

Below are two sets of questions. To prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great first meeting as you come together to connect and encourage one another to grow and to _____ see
God _____ change
our lives from the inside out!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. What was one of your favorite hobbies or pastimes growing up?
2. If you were told you had to spend an hour in one of the following stores and could buy one item of your choice, which store would you go to and what would you buy?

Home Depot	A Day Spa
Old Navy	Fry's
Sports Authority	Bath & Body Works
Target	Pier One
IKEA	

3. What do you personally hope to get out of this Growth Group this quarter?

GENUINE ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Looking back over your sermon notes, which particular point or passage of Scripture most challenged, confused, or caught your attention regarding "Genuine Accountability"?

2. This week we saw how important a transparent life is to genuine accountability. The Apostle Paul (the author of more books in the Bible than anyone else) lived a transparent life even as a leader. As you read Romans 7:14-20, identify some of the ways in which Paul was radically transparent.

Romans 7:14-20

We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. [15] I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. [16] And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. [17] As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. [18] I

know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. [19] For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do--this I keep on doing. [20] Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. [NIV]

What are some specific things your group could do to help each other grow in “transparency”?

3. What do the following verses tell us about “Genuine Accountability”?

Proverbs 12:1

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge,
but he who hates correction is stupid. [NIV]

Proverbs 12:15

The way of a fool seems right to him,
but a wise man listens to advice. [NIV]

Proverbs 27:5-6

Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.
[6] Wounds from a friend can be trusted,
but an enemy multiplies kisses. [NIV]

Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron,
so one man sharpens another. [NIV]

Proverbs 28:13

He who conceals his sins does not prosper,
but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy. [NIV]

Proverbs 22:3

A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge,
but the simple keep going and suffer for it. [NIV]

Prayer Requests for this Week

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