



## Skeptical “Hypocrisy”

### Gather:

*What is the goal of small groups? They are designed to equip you to daily, walk closer with Jesus, and to allow the Holy Spirit to work in you and through you to love and serve people well. Ask the following questions to see how it's going.*

- How am I doing loving the people God has given me to love over this past week?
- Why is God so good?
- What is something new that God has revealed to me this week about himself or myself?

### Change:

- Think back to the message and share what theme, verse, or point stuck out the most? Why? \*\*\*Remember to bring your Update from the weekend to refresh your memory.
- How have you experienced Christian hypocrisy in your own life?
- Historically do you think the church has made a positive contribution to society or a negative one? Why?
- Brad said there are two major reasons for hypocrisy in the church and the first is:
  - **Not everyone that identifies as Christian are Christians.**
- Read Galatians 5:22-23. How does this touch on the hypocrisy of our past and present?
  - **The message of Christianity does not make bad people into good people.**
- Explore the claims made in 2 Corinthians 4:1-5. How does our weakness let Christ's light shine through?
- Brad said: “The church is made up of people who recognize that they are not perfect and that doesn't change overnight. But, from someone on the outside looking in, it can look like we are nothing but a bunch of hypocritical people. See, Christianity is about Jesus dying at the hands of His enemies and refusing to pick up a sword. This is the center of Christianity! A call to repent of our mistakes and become more like Jesus, who laid down His life for those that disagreed with Him. The message of Christianity is not bad people becoming good people. The message of Christianity is Jesus. What He taught, the way He lived, and who He is. And that's good news.” How does this change how we see hypocrisy in the church? Or does it change? Why? Why not?

### Serve:

- This semester we want you to make it a priority to Love God and to Love others. We are asking you to commit to two things. #1 Apply the bible study methods you practice in small group during the rest of the week. INVEST in your relationship with God. #2 Get involved as a group and have an impact on this city! You will notice that we are highlighting and partnering with a few local organizations that are doing amazing things in Gainesville. If you don't already have people and places to impact in mind, join up with one of our Shift partners. We want to challenge you to spend at least one day/group time per month serving and loving those around you, and making a real impact on this city, all for the sake of the gospel. BY ALL POSSIBLE MEANS!
  
- Mark Clark, *The Problem of God: Answering A Skeptic's Challenge to Christianity* (Zondervan, 2017) Ch. 8
- David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons, *unchristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christians...And Why It Matters* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007) 27, 46-47
- Dan Brown, *The Da Vinci Code* (New York: Doubleday, 2003), 125.
- T. Edward Damer, *Attacking Faulty Reasoning: A Practical Guide to Fallacy-Free Arguments*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Belmont, Cal: Wadsworth, 1995), 159-161.
- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 2001), 170.