

HAUNTED HOUSE

Week Two | Shame | 10.23-24.2021

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Message Recap: While so many of us want our homes to be safe and inviting spaces, many of us have found our homes and lives haunted by the unknown, broken, and controlled. The very place we desire to land at the end of a hard day has become the fortress of pain and paranoia. God invites our homes and lives to become places where the very love of Jesus gives way to love, freedom, courage, and strength.

» Opening

(3 minutes)

- Introductions - This is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members.
- Housekeeping - Clarify expectations:
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting.
 - **Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - Open your time together in prayer.

» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What's one of your "guilty pleasures?"
- Digging Deeper: What is it about your "guilty pleasure" that keeps you coming back?

» Observation | Read Psalm 32; 1 John 1:9; Revelation 3:17-19

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | Religion says 'shame on you,' Jesus says 'shame on me.'

(12 minutes)

- How would you describe shame?

» The Weight of Shame | Reread Psalm 32:1-4

(12 minutes)

- David writes about the weight of shame in his life and the metaphor he uses is that his bones are wasting away and he is groaning. How do past regrets feel in your life?

» The Power of Confession | Reread Psalm 32:5-11; 1 John 1:9

(12 minutes)

- What are past mistakes and regrets that can hold us back from experiencing freedom? How have you been able to move past them?

» The Hope of Repentance | Reread Revelation 3:17-19

(12 minutes)

- What are the holdups in how you think about God or community that won't let you pursue freedom with the shame you still carry?
- What would it take from God or people in your life to trust and try to be vulnerable in those areas?

» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- What do you need to do to believe that "you are not the worst thing you've done and you are not the worst thing that's been done to you?" How can your group or the people closest to you help you?
- Close by praying for each other to explore and share how shame has prevented you from living in the freedom Jesus offers.