

9-STEP ACCOUNTABILITY

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." -Proverbs 27:17

1

PRAY

Open each meeting with prayer. Pray specifically for God to use the time you have together. Pray for wisdom as you navigate life with one another. Pray for God to shed light on the areas of your life that need to be brought out from the darkness.



2

CONFESSION

Spend time individually confessing sins from the week. Be blunt and honest about what is really going on in your life.



3

MOVING FORWARD

You don't just confess the sin and sit. You confess and move forward. You repent.

WHAT'S THE WHY?

To move forward, you have to ask "What's the why?" Ask questions until you can't ask anymore to get to the root of the sin.

Example

- **Confession:** Gossip
- **Why did you gossip?** I was in a certain group of people I tend to gossip around.
- **Why do you tend to gossip around that group of people?** I want them to like me.
- **Why do you want them to like you so badly?** If they like me, that means I am validated.
- **Root of the problem?** I am insecure in who I am, so I have to seek acceptance and validation from some other source.
- **Apply the Remedy of the Gospel (the Gospel is the solution to every issue of sin):** I am validated through who Jesus says I am, and Jesus died on the cross just to have me. Because I am accepted by Jesus, I do not live or die by the acceptance of man.



SCRIPTURE APPLICATION

Look for what the Bible says about that sin. Use verses and stories from Scripture that deal with the particular sin.

PRACTICAL STEPS

When dealing with sin, the ultimate solution is the Gospel. Jesus is not in the business of behavior modification. He wants your heart. That being said, it would be unwise to neglect the practical side of sin. For example, it probably isn't a good idea for a recovering alcoholic to hangout at the bar. Use this time to talk through some practical steps to help you fight that sin. Take drastic steps if need be. Jesus takes sin seriously and so should we!

7 "Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! 8 And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. 9 And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. -Matthew 18:7-9

4

PRAY

Spend time praying for one another's sins and the battle against temptation.



5

GROWTH

Use this time to discuss how you are growing in your relationship with God.



HELPFUL QUESTIONS

Honest spiritual assessment 1-10: 1 (as far away from God as I have ever felt) 10 (closer to God than I ever thought possible) Why?

What have your spiritual disciplines looked like? Study of the Word, prayer, worship, Church

What has God been teaching you?

Is there anything that has dampened your passion for Christ?

6

MISSION

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." -Matthew 28:19-20



Spend time discussing how you are living life on mission carrying out the Great Commission.

HELPFUL QUESTIONS

Who has God placed on your mind and heart?

How have you positioned yourself for God to give you opportunities to share with this person?

Did you make any ground this week in "winning" them for Christ?

What can you do to be more intentional with them this week?

7

RELATIONAL

Use this time to discuss different things that are going on in each other's lives. Talk about different prayer requests you might have.

8

PRAY

Spend time in prayer praying for a desire to know God deeper and more intimately. Pray for the hearts of the people you are trying to reach. Pray for what is going on in each other's lives.

9

DAY TO DAY

Check in with each other and help practically with whatever you discussed in your meeting for accountability with sins, encourage each other throughout the week, and pray for one another regularly.