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FLIPPED

Flipped

Small Group Material

Participant Guide

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Bottom Line: *What if we flipped our sinful desires into opportunities to worship God?*

Study Verses: *Romans 7:15-19, Matthew 4:1-11, John 15:3-4*

Key Points

- *We live in a culture of "just one more."*
- *We all struggle with something. Each one of us has a core sin we can't seem to get away from.*
- *Recognize your design. Resist the temptation. Remain in relationship with Christ.*
- *If you need to change the Bible in order to justify your behavior, you are going without God.*
- *Our behaviors are manifestations of choices we've already made.*
- *Sin is going without God. He allows us to go, but when we pursue our own desires, we go alone.*

ENCOUNTER

- We live in a culture of "just one more." How have you seen this mindset play out in your life and the lives of those around you? How does having this mindset leave us vulnerable?
- In the midst of the struggle, how does one know when they are justifying their behavior? What are some justifications you have used in the past to reconcile your behavior?
- Describe a time when you felt "stuck" spiritually or when a temptation seemed to constantly get the better of you. What emotions and thoughts

did you experience? How have you typically responded to feeling stuck in the past? How did this wrestling with temptation influence the perspective you had of yourself?

FORMATION

- Read Romans 7:15-19. Describe the level of vulnerability Paul (the author of the passage) exhibited to his readers. What leads one to feel safe enough to be as transparent as Paul? In this passage, Paul speaks of two natures being inside each of us. How do they wage war against one another? How do you relate to this internal struggle?
- Read Matthew 4:1-11. How did the enemy attack Jesus by tempting Him to go against His physical, psychological and emotional design? How did Jesus respond to each temptation? In what ways did He flip the conversation and focus?
- Read John 15:3-4. How is our ability to experience victory in our struggle with temptation tied to our willingness to stay connected with Christ? How can you own your struggle and take personal responsibility while at the same time relying on God?

EXPRESSION

- Each of us struggles with something. What is your biggest struggle or core sin (lust, fear, pride, jealousy, greed, lying, gluttony, anger, laziness)? Why are you vulnerable to this struggle?
- If every longing at its core is a longing for God, what are you trying to find in the midst of the struggle with your core sin?
- How could you flip your sinful desires into an opportunity to worship God? What would it look like to repurpose your struggle?