

# WOUNDED

*Forgiveness needs more than a*



## **Wounded: Part 5**

Small Group Material

Participant Guide

## ***The Way We Receive***

April 3rd, 2016

**Bottom Line:** *Confession requires submission.*

**Study Verses:** *Isaiah 53:6, Proverbs 28:13, Hebrews 10:1-4,8-14, Ephesians 5:21, 1 John 1:5-10*

### **Key Points**

- When we come to God we often bring our case rather than a confession.
- Repentance is the way we receive forgiveness.
- When we identify where we have confession without submission, we find the places where our buttons are likely to be pushed.
- We live in a culture where we are taught to conceal our mistakes.
- Our system is not God's system.
- Confession precedes repentance.
- The gift of forgiveness allows us to understand grace in ways that go undetected in our old system of checks and balances.
- Driving to the WHY enables us to find WHAT truly needs to be confessed.
- If we conceal our sin, we rot from the inside.

## ENCOUNTER

- When you think of sin and confession, what comes to mind? Does your mind tend to gravitate towards behavior or heart issues?
- How do we receive forgiveness without manipulating and abusing it? How do we use confession to alleviate our guilt?

## FORMATION

*"If you had a perfect excuse, you would not need to be forgiven... If we forget this, we shall go away imagining that we have repented and been forgiven when all that has really happened is that we have satisfied ourselves with our own excuses."*

**-CS Lewis**

- Read the quote from C.S. Lewis and Isaiah 53:6. How do we justify the reasons we have "gone astray"? How can you tell when you are justifying rather than truly confessing?
- Read Hebrews 10:1-4,8-14. Our system is not God's system. According to this passage, what were some of the shortcomings of the old system? What was it incapable of doing? Even though Christ made a way for us to be whole, in what ways do we continue to live under the old system of forgiveness?
- Read Ephesians 5:21. What does it mean to be submissive in the context of a relationship? What role does submission play in forgiveness?
- Read 1 John 1:5-10. How is confession simply an agreement that something is broken between us and God? What does confession do? How are we positioning ourselves before God when we confess?

## EXPRESSION

- Read Proverbs 28:13. What situations are you stating your case before God rather than offering a confession?
- In this situation, you've identified the WHAT (behavior). But, what is driving the WHY (underling motivator)?
- Where do you have confession without submission? What causes you to hesitate to submit in this area?