

The Missing Piece

Sermon Series: *IMAGINE*

February 22, 2015

INTRODUCTION

We all drift. We begin with great intentions, determined to stay the course, but along the way we find ourselves falling back into the places and behaviors we intended to avoid. Somehow our commitments and convictions just aren't able to help us on their own. There's a missing piece that's absolutely necessary if we're going to stay on the right track in our walk with God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Has there been a time when you were really committed to doing something, and yet in spite of your commitment you didn't do it?
2. How does a connection with other believers help you keep your commitments and convictions? Where do you currently find connection?
3. Read what King Solomon wrote as he recounts what he observed in Proverbs 7:6-27. Summarize the story in our own words. What steps could this young man have taken in order to keep himself from being persuaded by this woman?
4. Has there ever been a time where you had crystal clear clarity into someone else's bad decisions? Did you say anything? Has anyone ever pulled you aside when you were about to make a bad decision?
5. What are some of the things that often keep us from being vulnerable and transparent with one another? What steps can we take to move closer to building authentic communities?
6. Who has access into your life? Who have you given permission to speak honestly into your life? How has this been valuable for you.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

It says in Hebrews 3:12-13 that we are to *encourage* one another on regularly to keep in order to keep us from drifting into a sinful and unbelieving heart. This is at the very heart of what Solomon was doing when he was instructing and warning his sons. He was *encouraging* them to guard their hearts, because he knew where it could lead potentially them.

Likewise for us, how can we be more intentional about leveraging the power of community in our lives? God never intended for us to walk through this Christian life alone. We were created for relationships. This is why it's so important that we take steps to build community in our lives. Prayerfully consider joining a small group or a Community Group this week.

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." – James 5:16