

UNEARTHED

Digging beneath the surface and bringing our whole selves before God.

Week 4 Group Discussion Guide (~90 minutes needed)

Begin your group by catching up and following up from last week (10 minutes).

Ask each person to share about how they're doing at work, at home, and how their families are doing. Give each person space to share as much or as little as they want about each category.

Follow up from Week 3: After further reflecting on last week's topic of how hard and unfair things can often impact our relationship with God, ourselves, and others, where are you finding the truth of that reality affecting your own life? Are there any areas you need healing or to offer forgiveness? Do you want to share them?

Read 2 Samuel 11:1-12:10. Then read this brief description of the topic for Week 4 of Unearthed and discuss the following questions (20 minutes):

The story of David and Bathsheba is a powerful reminder of the destructive effects of sin and the importance of confession, repentance, and bringing sin into the light. In this story, we see the consequences of David's sin and the role that accountability and confrontation played in his journey towards repentance. The story challenges us to examine our own lives and relationships and to cultivate a culture of honesty, transparency, and accountability. Ultimately, the story points us toward the need for redemption and renewal in our lives and in the world around us.

- What lessons can we learn from David's sin with Bathsheba and his confrontation by Nathan?
- In what ways does David attempt to cover up his wrongdoing? Why do you think humans so often do this?
- Why is confession of sin and wrongdoing important for us to grow spiritually?

Break into smaller groups to dive deeper (30 minutes).

- As we talked about above, David came up with some interesting ways to cover up his sin. What has "covering up" sin looked like in your own life?
- When has hiding sin come back to bite you?
- What are some of the dangers of keeping sin hidden, and how can we cultivate a culture of honesty and transparency in our relationships?
- Have you ever confessed something to someone even when it was really hard? What was that like?
- Read James 5:16, Proverbs 28:13, and 1 John 1:9. What do these verses tell us about confession?

Take time individually to walk through the Confession practice (20 minutes).

In **Psalm 51**, David confesses his sin before God. Take some time to read that psalm. Next, complete the Confession practice on pages 40-41 from the Unearthed Journal. (You may also suggest that group members complete this practice on their own during the week if you do not have time to do it now).

What did you learn from doing the practice?

Finish with intercessory prayer (10 minutes).

As you do each week, finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is one thing you can be grateful for this week?
- What is something we can be praying about for you?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.

EXTRA:

1. If you did not complete it during group time, do the Confession practice on page 40-41 of the Unearthed Journal to help rewire your view of self, suffering, others, and God.
2. Also, be sure to listen to this week's Unearthed bonus podcast episode, which you can find on our website at thecreek.org/unearthed.