

# Week Two: Sin on the Table

## Leader Meeting Outline

### Group Begins

- (Welcome group members)
- This week we are reviewing chapter 2, which highlighted our own prideful tendencies toward habitual sin as well as the hope we have in Christ to overcome temptation.
- Let's read the quote from author Elyse Fitzpatrick at the beginning of the chapter and then we'll pray.
- (Read Elyse Fitzpatrick quote on pg. 10 of *Clean Home, Messy Heart*)
- (Lead group in opening prayer)

### Chapter 2 Group Review

#### Opening Questions

- How did you relate to the opening story of this chapter?
- Would someone please share a part in the "Messiness of Sin" section that really spoke to them?

#### Washing with the Word Reflections

- It's very easy to see the sins of our family and/or children and condemn them for repeated failures, but are we recognizing that we also exhibit the same struggle when it comes to our own spiritual maturity? When is the last time you considered yourself to be the "worst of sinners?"
- (Turn bibles to 1 Timothy 1:15-16 and ask a member to read aloud)
- Although we should recognize ourselves as the worst of sinners, we need not lose our confidence in Christ our Savior, nor in his promise to make all things—even our messy hearts—brand new.
- Let's read the first main scripture in the Washing with the Word section. Please turn your bibles to Romans 7:18-19.
- (Read Romans 7:18-19 aloud to group)
- Was there anything in this section that stood out to you?
- Now let's turn our attention to how Christ has freed us from our slavery to sin. Turn your bibles to Romans 6:6.
- (Have a group member read Romans 6:6 aloud)
- The author writes, "The unchanging and unfailing word of Scripture says we've been freed, but our unstable and unruly emotions attempt to suggest otherwise (pg. 15)." Let's read Galatians 5:17 to see why that is.
- (Have a group member read Galatians 5:17 aloud)
- Was there anything in this section that stood out to you?

- When we are walking by the flesh, we are easily overtaken by temptations. But walking in the power of the Spirit increases our awareness not only to the temptation, but also to the way out of it. Turn your bibles to 1 Corinthians 10:13.
- *(Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 aloud to group)*
- Was there something in this last section that convicted or encouraged you?
- How do you think being connected to the body of Christ helps us in our struggle to overcome temptations?

## *Hanging Hearts Out to Dry | Page 18*

### **Study Reflection**

- Let's discuss our responses to the reflection question on page 18. First, when we are in the middle of warring against the flesh—when our blood is boiling about something and we feel that angry ball of fire in our stomachs, do we believe God when he says he's given us a way to escape?
- *(After this discussion response, have each member of the group read the Scriptures they found pertaining to God's faithfulness).*

### **Scripture Memorization**

- Now let's test ourselves on this week's memory verse.
- *(Note: the method how you do this should be pre-determined by the preference of your group. See Small Group Leader Kit Introduction for suggestions).*

### **Prayer**

- Let's read Psalm 51:10 together (read aloud to group). Would anyone like to share a summary of what they wrote or how the Spirit spoke to their heart during this week's reading?

**Reflection Journal Users:** You may or may not choose to review the 5 Scriptures from this week's reflection journal. If you would like to, take turns reading the verses aloud and discuss how the Spirit convicted and/or encouraged them through their reflection journaling time.

## *Group Ends*

- *(Conclude meeting by asking for prayer requests and prayer reports. Then lead group in closing prayer.)*