

**Self-disclosure Questions/Icebreakers**

What's your favorite song?

**Scripture** – Mark 7:14-23

**Suggested Prayer**

*Father in heaven, humble us as we consider how widespread sin is in each one of us. Help us to marvel at the glory of our Savior as we contemplate the greatness of our plight. Empower us by your Spirit to share the tragedy of sin and the hope of salvation in Jesus.*

**Sermon Take-Away** – If you need/want to review it, Pastor Colin talked about...

1. Sin goes everywhere
2. Sin is in everyone
  - a. The sinful nature produces sinful cravings
  - b. The cravings of your sinful nature find expression in your thoughts and desires

What was your take-away from this week's sermon?

**Discussion Questions** – Choose as few or as many as you'd like.

1. There was a story read from the newspaper about a young woman distraught over being caught stealing a TV in a riot. If you sat across from this young lady as she exclaimed to you, "I just don't get it, why did I do it?"—how would you answer her in light of the sermon? What Scripture passages would you point her to? Why?
2. Pastor Colin's first point was that 'sin goes everywhere.' The power of sin affects not only what we *do*, but also what we *want* and what we *think*. How is this different from defining sin as a list of isolated actions? Which part of you do you tend to think of least as being affected by sin (e.g., will, mind, heart)? Why?
3. The song "Born This Way" by Lady Gaga was quoted during the sermon as one of many instances of pop-culture that communicates untruths about God and the world. Pastor Colin re-wrote the song from a Christian perspective. Compare the two sets of lyrics and discuss the differences. What version of the song best characterizes what you believe about yourself?

### **By Lady Gaga**

My mama told me when I was young We are all born  
superstars...  
'There's nothing wrong with loving who you are' She said,  
'cause he made you perfect, babe'  
'So hold your head up girl, and you'll go far, Listen to me  
when I say'  
I'm beautiful in my way 'Cause God makes no mistakes  
  
I'm on the right track, baby I was born this way.  
Don't hide yourself in regret Just love yourself and you're  
set  
  
I'm on the right track baby I was born this way.

### **By Pastor Colin**

My mama told me when I was young, we are all born  
sinners.  
'There's everything wrong with loving who you are,' She  
said, 'cause you're far from perfect, babe.'  
'So bow your head down, boy, and you'll go far, Listen to  
me when I say'  
*Become* beautiful in God's way 'Cause God makes no  
mistakes  
You're on the *wrong* track, baby *You were born this way.*  
Draw near to God in regret Seek faith in Christ, then you'll  
be set,  
  
You're on the *wrong* track baby *You were born this way.*

4. Imagine a good friend of yours approaches you with a concern. Bill is frustrated over an argument he had with his wife Betty. The argument started when Betty began calling him names, implying that he was lazy and worthless. Bill looks at you and says, "I hate yelling at her like I did. I wish she wouldn't make me do that!" Read Mark 7:20-23. What truth from this passage does Bill not understand? How would embracing this biblical truth change the way Bill reacts to his wife's verbal attacks?
  
5. Pastor Colin ended the sermon by saying, "If nothing in you is broken, there is nothing to redeem. As long as you believe that, you will never embrace Christ." How does this change the way you feel about sharing the gospel with someone new this week?

### **Suggested Closing Prayer**

*Spend some time in prayer confessing your sin to the Lord and receiving forgiveness through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.*

