



## For when you get in a fight with a friend

### Gather:

Consider incorporating these questions into your check-in time to help your group start thinking about this week's topic.

When was the last time you changed your opinion or belief about something major?

What was the best compliment you've received?

### Reflect:

We may encounter God through his Word, but also through the words of others. Invite the Spirit to help you encounter God as you read the following poem together. Note scriptural themes and movements of the Spirit as you consider this week's topic.

### Hoping for a Broken Heart (Paul David Tripp)\*

I am too satisfied  
with the things I say,  
the things I do,  
the attitudes of my heart,  
the ways I react  
day  
after  
day  
after  
day.  
I too easily  
accept  
quick assessments  
of my own righteousness  
in situations  
where I have been  
anything but  
righteous.

I am too skilled  
at mounting  
plausible arguments

structured  
to make me feel okay  
about what I think,  
what I desire,  
what I say,  
what I do.  
I am too defensive  
when a loved one  
makes an attempt  
to call me out  
and suggests  
for a moment  
that what I  
have decided,  
said,  
or done  
is less than  
godly.  
I am too  
comfortable  
with the state of things

between  
you and me,  
too relaxed  
with the nature  
of my love for you,  
too able to  
minimize  
my need for your  
grace.  
In the recesses  
of my private world,  
there is so much  
that is wrong  
that I am able  
to convince myself  
is right.  
There are attitudes  
that should not be kept.  
There are words  
that should not be spoken.  
There are thoughts  
that do not agree  
with your view  
of me  
and mine.  
There are desires  
that take me in a  
different direction  
than what you have planned  
for me.  
I make decisions  
based more on what  
I want  
than on what

you will.  
So I am hoping  
for  
wise eyes  
that are able  
to see through  
the cloud of  
self-righteousness  
and see myself  
as I actually  
am. I am praying  
for wise ears  
that are able  
to hear through  
the background noise of  
well-used platitudes  
and hear myself  
with clarity.  
And I am longing  
for  
a humble spirit  
that is willing  
to accept and confess  
what you reveal  
as you break through  
my defenses  
and show me  
to me.  
I am hoping  
for  
a broken heart.

### Connect:

Choose one or more of the following scriptures to read together. How is reading these scriptures the same or different from reading the poem? How is God reflected differently or similarly?

Galatians 6:1-6

### Respond:

Take time together to think about how you have encountered God in community, the words of others, and in scripture. Consider the following questions or activities to conclude your time together.

In what areas of your life do you feel like you've got it together? In what areas of your life do you feel like you fall short?

How do you evaluate your spiritual life?

Do you have people in your life who hold you accountable? Who are they, why do they get to do that?

### Prayer:

Close your time in prayer for each other. Consider asking each person to write down their prayer requests on a 3x5 card and switch them with someone else in the group. Pray for each other throughout the week.

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