



## COMMUNITY

# TRANSPARENCY

**Objective for Learning:** To understand and develop a desire for the Biblical concept of transparency and how this brings freedom and liberty to the one being transparent.

**Objective for Living:** To have a lifestyle of transparency in which there are person(s) who know the real you.

**Objective for Reproducing:** To be able to not only live a transparent life but to lead others in discovering, understanding, and committing to living transparent lives themselves.

### Scriptures for Transparency:

- Ephesians 4:25
- 1 John 1:7
- Proverbs 28:13
- Colossians 3:9-10
- Matthew 5:8
- Proverbs 10:9
- James 5:16
- Proverbs 12:17, 22
- Proverbs 24:26
- 2 Corinthians 1:12
- 2 Corinthians 4:2
- 2 Corinthians 6:11

How do each of these Scriptures help to **define** and **illuminate** what transparency is and why it is important?

### Hearing (Discussion Points and Questions):

#### Overview:

We have always been taught to put our best foot forward, to dress to impress, and to post only the best pictures of ourselves on social media. We want people to see only the best parts of us. Transparency, however, is the choice to live without false pretenses. It is being unashamed to be and present the real you to others. Real transparency occurs when you are comfortable being you, flaws and all, no matter what environment you find yourself in.

Transparency is not just sharing the bad, but the good as well. Many people see transparency as getting sin off of your chest, but it also incorporates being confident in and sharing the key elements of who you are and not trying to be someone you are not. It also means you are sharing visions and dreams you have with others and allowing them to hear those aspirations that you may not share with just everyone.

### **Questions for Learning and Living:**

- Why is transparency so scary? Why are people afraid of others seeing the real them?
- When we are transparent, we experience radical freedom (Proverbs 28:13, James 5:16, Ephesians 4:25). What about transparency allows us to experience this sort of freedom?
- How do you find someone you feel comfortable enough being transparent with? What are the qualities or traits you should look for?
- Are there aspects of your life that you are holding back from others? Why?
- Should you be transparent with everyone or only a select few people? Why do you think so?

### **Questions for Reproducing:**

- Think about the things that led you to becoming more fully transparent. What were those things? How could you incorporate that into leading others in transparency?
- What are some practical steps that you can take to help others prioritize and partake in transparent relationships with you and others?
- What are some ways that you can ensure that there is consistent transparency with the people you are leading?

### **Doing (Implementation and Application):**

- What is Jesus saying to you about this?
- How are you going to respond? Look at your personal discipleship assessment.
  - Give 1-3 concrete action steps that you are going to do this week to help you take the next step of learning, living, or reproducing in this area.

- Choose one of the Scriptures that really impacted you and commit to memorizing it this week.