

HILLSIDE STUDENTS

NOT EVEN A HINT | Impurity

LEADER TOOLS

REMINDEERS: Take *ATTENDANCE!* Use the app & let us know who to add/remove!

GAME: 🎮 *PLAY Levels!* Levels is a rock, paper, scissors game where everyone in the group starts on level 0. Then, everyone will play one round of the game. Whoever wins moves up to the next level and whoever loses moves down one level. The first person to reach level 10 wins!

TOPIC OVERVIEW: The Greek word akatharsia means "impurity" or "uncleanness." It's the idea of being morally dirty - not just in actions, but in thoughts, desires, and motives. Paul uses it to describe a heart that's been contaminated by the world. It's broader than any one specific sin; it's the general state of being stained by what we've let in. I think of the filter analogy or even the gasoline and water. Just a drop of gasoline makes it all impure. But, a filter (forgiveness by God, the cleansing of our sin by the blood of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit in our lives) can make what is unclean now clean. And when we allow our lives to be filtered by God, we then think about what we watch, listen to, scroll through, and dwell on - because it all eventually affects what flows out of us. Jesus said the things that defile us come from inside, not outside. The hope of the Gospel is that Jesus doesn't leave us dirty. He came to cleanse us.

ICE-BREAKERS:

- If you were a bug, which one would you be?
- Would you rather: be stuck on a boat alone in the ocean, or stuck in a spaceship in outer space all alone?

MESSAGE DEBRIEF & BIBLE STUDY:

- **Read Ephesians 5:3.** How would you explain purity and impurity to a friend?
- Why does Paul say not even a hint of these things should be found in a Christian's life? Why does this matter for your life?
- What are some benefits of purity you've seen in your life or in people you look up to? Why is this better than settling for impurity?
- **Read Romans 6:23.** Why is sin, even "small sin" in our lives a problem?
- **Read 1 John 1:9.** How does the passage tell us God responds when we confess?
- **Read James 5:16.** Leaders encourage students to think about an area of their life where they need to practice confession to God and to parents/adults. Encourage them to take action!
- **Read Psalms 139:23-24.** Pray as a group for God to help show you the things that are leading you away from Him. And ask for the boldness to confess those things and walk in a new direction following after Him.

DISCUSSION

READING PLAN

Join us as we read the New Testament in 6 months!

