

**Principle #2: Recognize everyone is desperately insecure**

Not just some people, but \_\_\_\_\_ is desperately insecure.

Recognizing this principle will change how you look at every single person.

- It will change how you \_\_\_\_\_ their words.
- It will change how you \_\_\_\_\_ to them.
- It will change how you \_\_\_\_\_ about them.
- It will change how you \_\_\_\_\_ about yourself.

*<sup>8</sup> They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup> He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."*

Genesis 3:8-10 (NASB)

## The fall brought guilt and shame

### The result:

- Fear-based relationships with God and others
- A loss of security and safety – insecurity

### The action:

- Hiding to cover who we really are – our nakedness
  - Strong response – arrogance
  - Weak response – withdrawn

**Practice:**

Take off your mask. \_\_\_\_\_ builds genuine relational intimacy;  
\_\_\_\_\_ destroys it.

The very first sin recorded in the Early Church was \_\_\_\_\_. Acts 5

**How do you deal with insecurity?**

1. Understand that no one has it all together.
2. Understand that everyone is hiding, pretending, or projecting to some degree.
3. When you feel uncomfortable, threatened, or afraid, simply admit and verbalize it appropriately. Refuse to "play the game."
4. Catch yourself and own it.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Why is it so important to recognize that everyone is desperately insecure?
2. When we are insecure we display either a strong or weak response. Which response do you typically demonstrate? Ask the Lord to help you be authentic and genuine with those around you.
3. In Acts 5, what was Ananias and Sapphira's consequence for hypocrisy? Why was this judgement necessary?
4. What steps can you take to "take off" the mask of insecurity?