

## HOW TO BECOME YOUR BEST | 6-19-16

### REFLECT & DISCUSS

Relationships are powerful. They have the ability to empower us or prevent us from becoming the person we were meant to be. We wrestle with our individual messiness and imperfection, but somehow in community, we expect the mess to get cleaned up. We hope that together we can cover our weaknesses and become stronger as a collection of growing friends. This is possible, but it's not easy getting there. Without using names, describe a messy relationship you have experienced in the past. What was so painful about that relationship? What caused it to get messy? Has it been repaired? How did you get there?

### READ: *Matthew 13:34-35*

How often did Jesus teach in parables? Why do you think He told stories so often? What is one of your favorite stories? What is your favorite form of storytelling: movies, books, music, etc? How do stories capture us, inspire us, and stay with us?

### READ: *Acts 9:8-14*

Why didn't Ananias want to go talk to Saul? Can you relate to him? Do you struggle to reach out to people who are different than you, have a bad reputation, don't fit into your group, make you feel uncomfortable, seem weird to you, are overly-dramatic, messy, or transparent? What would have happened if Ananias refused to reach out to Saul? What will happen if you don't reach out to these people in your life? What will happen if you do?

### READ: *Acts 9:15-20*

How did Ananias recognize Saul's potential, welcome him in, and stand next to him to call out his best? What are some specific ways we can do this for each other? How do we become our best when we invest in each other?

### CHALLENGE

Spend some time with God and ask Him who He is calling you to invest in. Call out their best by recognizing their potential, welcoming them in, and standing next to them.

### PRAYER

Jesus, help me to invest in others the way you have invested into me. You died for me even though I was a sinner. I was far from you with a reputation I was ashamed of, but you loved me unconditionally, rescued me, and called out my best. I commit to doing the same for others!

*Written by Dalton Campus Pastor, John Grandy*