

Questions for homegroups – Discovering our true selves

- Why do you think Jesus said to the rich man in Matthew 19: 21 *"If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven?"*
- What's the difference between a true and a false self?
- What might we surmise about this man's false self?
- *"The false self occupies a position that belongs to God alone."* What do you think are consequences for our behaviour when the false self takes on this role?
- What might be the consequences of constructing an identity around performance?
- How much do you find yourself asking: *"What are people thinking of me? How do I appear to them? What do I have to do to get them to like and accept me?"*
- In what way are you ever aware of presenting a front, or persona to the world which may not fully represent who you truly are?
- If you use social media (or your children do), what effect do you observe it having on you?
- Why as humans are we often striving for acceptance, approval and control?
- Do you ever feel you might have lost contact with your innermost self? In what way?
- How might being a Christian help us find our true selves?
- *"Church should be a safe space to be not just to be your imagined self or your best self, but your true self."* Is this your experience of church? What makes this a challenge?
- Why do you think religious people are very good at manufacturing a "Christian" false self? What form does this often take?
- How hard or easy do you find it to receive the idea that with God you don't need to be like anyone else except you?

