



1 John 1:7,8

“If we live in the light as God is in the light then we can share fellowship with each other. (But) if we claim we have no sin, we’re fooling ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

The Marks of Authentic People

1. **Authentic People Acknowledge what God already knows about them.**

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and He is the one to whom we are accountable.

Hebrews 4:13



As the Scriptures say, "No one is good—not even one.

Romans 3:10

For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard.

Romans 3:23

**1. They underestimate the height
of God's standard of righteousness.**

*"For my thoughts are not your
thoughts, neither are your ways
my ways," declares the LORD.*

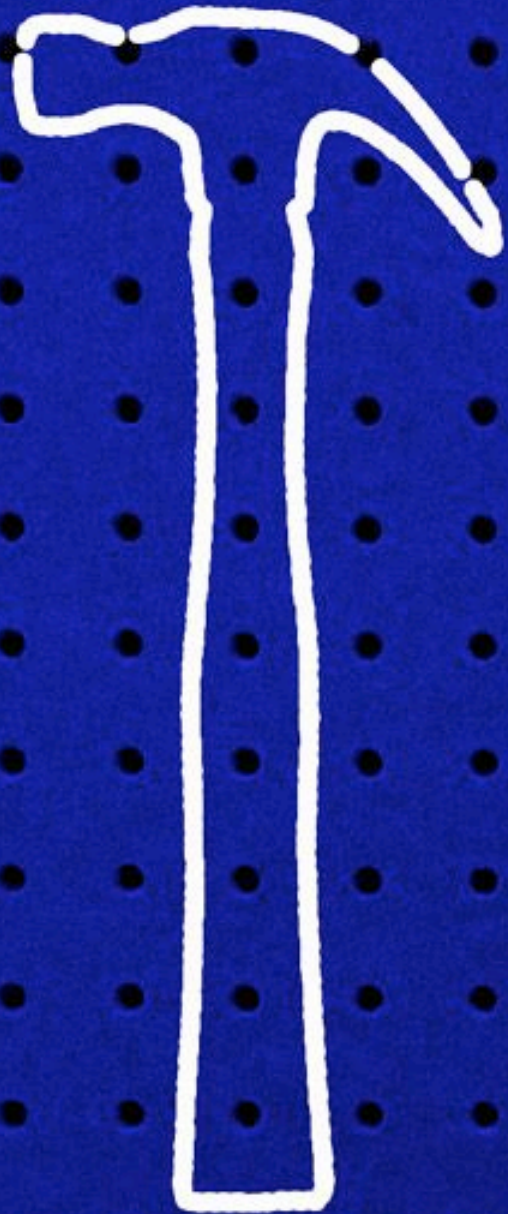
Isaiah 55:8

2. They underestimate the depth of their own sin.

We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind.

Isaiah 64:6





Action step:
Be an encourager.

“So encourage each other
and build each other up.”

1 Thessalonians 5:11a

“When Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. Looking intently at Simon, Jesus said, “You are Simon, the son of John—but you will be called Cephas” (or Peter which means Rock).” John 1:42



The Marks of Authentic People

2. Authentic People live transparent lives.

“Admit your faults one to another and pray for each other so that you may be healed...”

James 5:15

All the other apostles are greater than I am. I am not even good enough to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.¹⁰ But God's grace has made me what I am, and his grace to me was not wasted. I worked harder than all the other apostles. (But it was not I really; it was God's grace that was with me.) 1 Corinthians 15:9,10

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Although I am less than the least
of all God's people, this grace
was given me: to preach to the
Gentiles the unsearchable riches
of Christ.

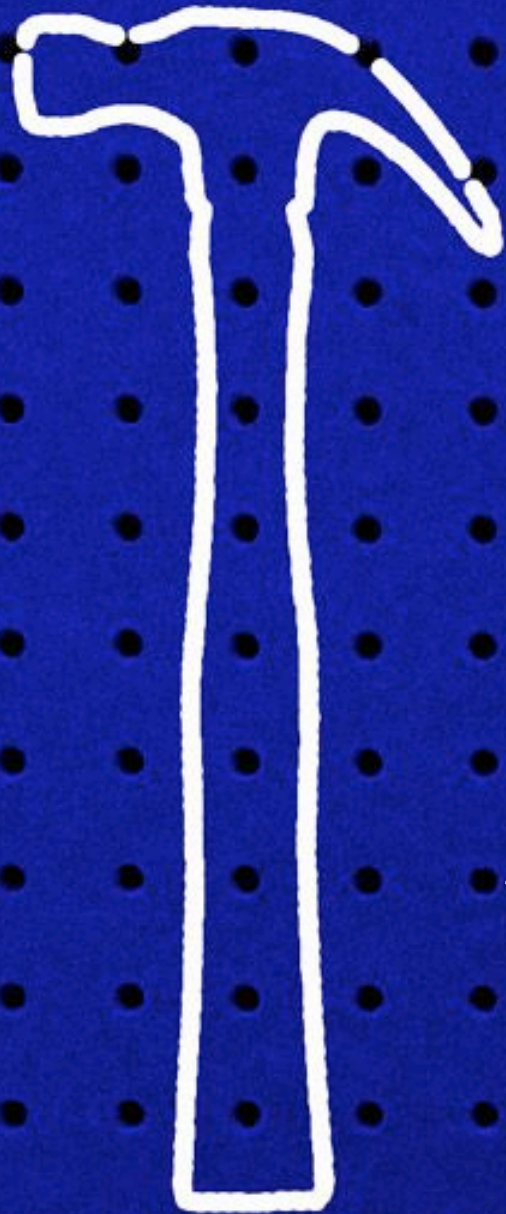
Ephesians 3:8

This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it:

“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”—and I am the worst of them all. 1 Timothy 1:15

But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

1 Timothy 1:16



Action Step:
**Transparency opens
the door to be a
courageous confronter.**

My dear friends, if you know people who have wandered off from God's truth, don't write them off. Go after them. Get them back and you will have rescued precious lives from destruction and prevented an epidemic of wandering away from God.

James 5:19,20



Jesus turned and looked and then said to Peter very sternly, "Get away from Me, Satan! You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's"

Mark 8:33



The Marks of Authentic People

3. Authentic People keep a confidence.

“No one who gossips can be trusted with a secret, but you can put confidence in someone who’s trustworthy.”

Proverbs 11:13

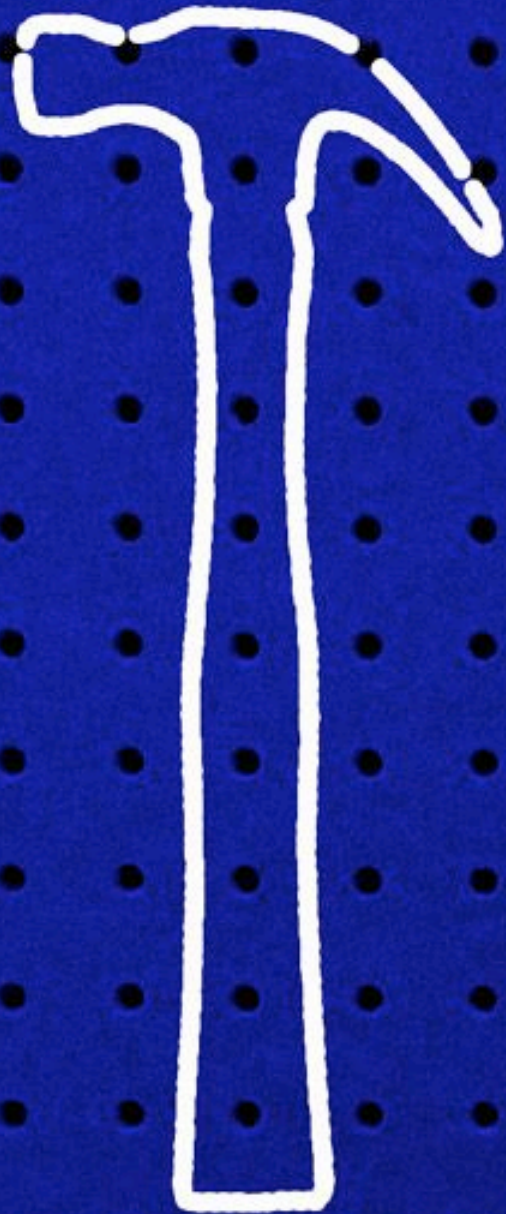
There's nothing so delicious as the
taste of **gossip!** It melts in your
mouth. Proverbs 18:8

“Gossip is no good. It causes hard feelings and comes between friends.”

Proverbs 16:28

When you and someone else can't
get along, don't **gossip** about it.

Proverbs 25:9



Action Step:
Rather than gossip
accept their weaknesses

*“Always be humble,
gentle and patient,
accepting each other in
love.” Ephesians 4:2*

Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory. Romans 15:7











