1. **Introduction and Prayer**
2. **A good and powerful God loves you deeply**
   1. You were created by God and for God for a purpose.
      1. You will never be completely satisfied, fulfilled or at peace until you are living in the purpose for which you were created.
      2. God wants to do more than fix you. Restore you the life for which you were created. Re:generation means new life.
   2. If you don’t believe in God(I came to get well, not religion or a new life.)
      1. Welcome.
      2. Be Honest with yourself. Be sure questions aren’t excuses for you to maintain control of life.
3. ***GOOD PLACE TO INSERT A PERSONAL STORY.***
4. **Step 1, Admit:** We admit we are powerless over our addictions, brokenness and sinful patterns- that in our own power our lives are unmanageable.
   1. Foundation 1:Romans 7:18 - *For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.*
   2. Enter into re:generation in two camps:
      1. Desperate (nowhere else to turn-hopeless)
      2. Skeptical. Not like those drunk/addicts. I just have this one small issue.
   3. We are all in the same boat.
5. **Bible says you have a disease- inherited a Sinful Nature. To be well you must treat disease.** Start at Step 1.
   1. God created a good world.
   2. Created humanbeings that would carry on a relationship with him, reflect his good image, care for and rule over the earth as he ruled over them with love and goodness.
   3. Created us for a relationship of love, trust and sharing of goodness…free will.Ecclesiastes 3:11 - …*he has put eternity into man’s heart…*
   4. In the beginning, only goodness.No death, no pain, no suffering, no sin.
   5. One command.Trust me. Don’t eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
   6. Temptation of Satan.God is not good. God is deceiving you. He is keeping you from knowing good and evil for yourself- from ruling yourself. You won’t die. You will be like God.
      1. Genesis 3:6-7 - *So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.*
   7. Until then they had only known good.God had protected them from evil. But, now for the first time they saw evil. And the evil was in them.
   8. They became afraid and tried to hide shame.This is what we do. Easier to lie, cheat, hide, justify actions than honestly face what we’ve done and who we are apart from God.
   9. New nature of rebellion.
   10. The disease of a rebellious nature spread to all.Romans 5:12 *“…sin came into the world through [Adam], and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.”*
6. **God’s pursuit**
   1. Genesis 3:8-11 - *And 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. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?*
   2. God is all-knowing. He asks questions for our benefit.
   3. God is good and still loves us. He is pursuing us, calling out to us to help us and heal us.
   4. He wants us to come out of hiding and be honestrather than be trapped hiding from him and others in sin. He created us for a relationship.
   5. Still consequences for sin.We are free to make choice but not free to choose consequences.
   6. God had what they needed. God was willing to sacrifice to cover sin and shame.
7. **Take-aways**
   1. Disease is a rebellious nature that wants to rule itself, seek its own pleasure, set its own rules. Determine good and evil on our own. If honest, I want a genie rather than a God.
   2. God is good. He is not trying to rip me off.His boundaries are in place to protect me so that I experience goodness and not evil.
   3. God created me for a loving relationship with him. He set eternity in my heart. Free will.
   4. I don’t need to hide. God already knows what I’ve done. He is pursuing me because he wants to heal me. He has what I need.
   5. My first step is to step out of hiding. Be honest to admit that I am powerless to overcome sin on my own and humble to admit need for help.
8. **The day I realized I was powerless and humble to admit my need was the day my life changed.** I began to let others in. I began to seek understanding. I began to have hope.
9. **Good news. Everyone in this room has begun this first step.** Something is broken that you can’t fix and seeking help outside of yourself. God is pursuing you. He wants you to stop hiding. He wants to cover your sin and your shame. He wants to restore you to who he created you to be.
10. ***GOOD PLACE TO INSERT A PERSONAL STORY.***
11. **You are not alone. God is good, He is powerful and He loves you. There is recovery in Christ when life is broken.**