

## AHA Session 2 Discussion Guide

**Text:** Luke 15:1-3, 11-24

1. How do you feel after this episode? What is your reaction?
2. What would you say the far country represents?
3. Kyle said when a person first arrives in the far country, it feels like freedom and new life. Why would that be true?
4. The image of an alarm sounding was a repeated theme. What is your tendency when your wake-up alarm sounds? Do you tend to jump up right away? Hit snooze a few times? Get up before it even goes off?
  - Does the way you respond to your wake-up alarm correspond to the way you respond to other alarms in your life, such as those discussed in the teaching?
5. In the episode, when each character's alarm sounded loudly, what was the effect on you? What did you feel and think when...
  - a. Anjela was accosted at the club?
  - b. Claire was stood up by Brad?
  - c. Tim was arrested?
6. Do you have anyone in your life who you are hoping and praying will hear the alarm and wake up? If so, can you tell us about it?
  - When you are hoping and praying for someone else to hear an alarm and wake up, does that focus make you more likely to notice an alarm in your life or more likely to overlook an alarm in your own life?
7. Look at the diagram on the back. This diagram portrays four basic ways we can react when we notice something wrong in someone else or when we wake up to something wrong in our own lives.
  - The blanks on the left side of the grid represent the two basic approaches we can take to the facts of the situation:
    - We can be HONEST about the facts by telling the truth as best we see it.
    - Or we can be DISHONEST about the facts by ignoring, denying or minimizing the truth.
  - The blanks along the top of the diagram represent the two basic attitudes or the spirit with which we can approach the sin or wrong:
    - We can approach the matter with an attitude of COMPASSION of a spirit of gentleness, understanding, and grace.
    - Or we can approach the matter with a spirit of CONDEMNATION a sense of harshness, contempt, and judgment.

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	COMPASSION	CONDEMNATION
HONEST		
NOT HONEST		

LET'S THINK ABOUT EACH BOX IN TURN.

- a. What does it look like when a person reacts to something wrong in another person, or something wrong in oneself, being both honest about the facts and having a spirit of compassion?
  - b. What does it look like when a person reacts with honesty and a spirit of condemnation to something wrong?
  - c. What does it look like when a person reacts to something wrong while not being completely honest about the facts while having a spirit of compassion?
  - d. What does it look like when a person reacts to something wrong while not being honest about the facts and having a spirit of condemnation?
9. Which box do you find yourself in as you react to each of the main characters in this episode: Tim, Claire, and Anjela?
10. We'll close by again hearing the parable of the prodigal story in Luke 15:11-24 read aloud. This time we'll include the context for the story by also reading 15:1-3. As you listen to the story this time, keep in mind the four boxes. Afterward, everyone will have an opportunity to share what stood out, if you choose to.

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