



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- 1 When there's a mess at home or at work, do you tend to jump right into cleanup mode or do you feel overwhelmed? Why do you think you respond the way you do?
- 2 Why do you think it's so hard to admit when things are a mess?
- 3 In the message, Andy said, "When it comes to the people around us whose lives are messy, we should be students, not critics."

A. Write down the name of a person or group of people you find it easy to judge based on their messes.

B. Now write down something you can do to be a student rather than a critic (i.e., to learn the story behind their messes).

If you want, share your answers with the group.

- 4 Have you ever met a person whose messes prevented him or her from believing that God could respond with love? Did his or her belief ever change and if so, how?

- 5 The harder we work to get a right standing with God, the more aware we become of our shortcomings. Is there a law you're under that's reminding you of a standard you don't meet?

- 6 Our shortcomings are also reminders of how much we need God. Is this comforting to you? Frustrating? Motivating? Why?