between
you and me,
too relaxed
with the nature
of my love for you,
too able to
minimize
my need for your
grace.
In the recesses
of my private world,
there is so much
that is wrong
that I am able
to convince myself
is right.
There are attitudes
that should not be kept.
There are words
that should not be spoken.
There are thoughts
that do not agree
with your view
of me
and mine.
There are desires
that take me in a
different direction
than what you have planned
for me.
I make decisions
based more on what
I want
that on what

you will.
So I am hoping
for
wise eyes
that are able
to see through
the cloud of
self-righteousness
and see myself
as I actually
am. I am praying
for wise ears
that are able
to hear through
the background noise of
well-used platitudes
and hear myself
with clarity.
And I am longing
for
a humble spirit
that is willing
to accept and confess
what you reveal
as you break through
my defenses
and show me
to me.
I am hoping
for
a broken heart.

Connect:

Choose one or more of the following scriptures to read together. How is reading these scriptures the same or different from reading the poem? How is God reflected differently or similarly?

Galatians 6:1-6

Respond:

Take time together to think about how you have encountered God in community, the words of others, and in scripture. Consider the following questions or activities to conclude your time together.

In what areas of your life do you feel like you've got it together? In what areas of your life do you feel like you fall short?

How do you evaluate your spiritual life?

Do you have people in your life who hold you accountable? Who are they, why do they get to do that?

Prayer:

Close your time in prayer for each other. Consider asking each person to write down their prayer requests on a 3x5 card and switch them with someone else in the group. Pray for each other throughout the week.

*Taken from   by