

SEPTEMBER
2014

THE Rez & THE Rockies

PRaising GOD FOR ALL HE IS DOING IN HEARTS AND LIVES.



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“IF WE WALK IN
THE LIGHT, AS HE
IS IN THE LIGHT,
WE HAVE
FELLOWSHIP WITH
ONE ANOTHER
AND THE BLOOD
OF JESUS, HIS
SON, PURIFIES US
FROM ALL SIN.”
1 JOHN 1:7

Fellowship: We use this word pretty flippantly as we discuss potlucks or time mingling around coffee and donuts. Week after week in our church congregations we all too often substitute a pretense of perfection for true fellowship and intimacy with each other. Whether due to lack of time or lack of trust, we make cordial conversation after church while no one really knows the dark trials we are facing on a daily basis.

I am so thankful to be partnering with you in a ministry digging beneath the pretense to work on issues truly at the heart. It is so easy for us to know the Gospel and yet struggle to flesh it out for daily living. The Inenimowin Circle seeks to bridge this gap by training people who deal with abuse, grief and trauma. We were blessed to host this training in Montana and make it available to people from our community in Browning. My friend, Melinda, was a participant and was deeply impacted. Before the training she thought denying her abuse would shield her kids and others from experiencing pain: Now she recognizes her honesty and vulnerability are crucial for healing and preventing others from feeling isolated in their own struggles. Since Inenimowin Melinda has been humbly sharing her story of sin, shame and

insecurity with others, including her family, and is seeking to help others to be transparent and experience new life in Christ.

As Melinda and I recently walked through I John 1:5-10, I was struck by the fact that walking in the Light and being honest with one another about our sin leads to BOTH fellowship with one another AND cleansing from sin (v.7). Both the horizontal relationship with others as well as the vertical relationship with God is affected by our willingness to step out from behind masks to truly talk about our struggles. We need this fellowship in our lives because when we are truthful about the darkness and we still receive love from others, then we truly experience the Gospel.



Inenimowin Circle Women's Group

Melinda articulated it this way, “Will you still love me IF I told you the ugly things about myself?” Her deepest longing, common to all of us, is just to know she wouldn’t cease to be loved if others knew *fill in the blank*. So each week Melinda and I meet together to confess our weaknesses and insecurities, embrace each other with love and seek to flesh out details of walking in the Light each day. Thank you for supporting and praying for this fellowship!

~ Summer Graham