Discussion Title: Whose Behind Your Mask	Category: Character

Q.	**Opening:** **Have a discussion about masks. Show a clip of a movie that there is a masked character. For example, *Batman, Friday the 13th, Spiderman*, or Jim Cary's *The Mask*. Discuss how the mask transforms Jim Carey into a totally different person, etc.**	Pick 2 individual to share. 5 minutes total.
Lesson:		
Q.	**People wear masks more than just at Halloween. Discuss some of the different masks that people wear:** • Mask of coolness-nothing ruffles them • Mask of superiority-can't top them in anything • Mask of religion-communicates perfection • Mask of inferiority-false humility • Mask of the joker-doesn't allow self to get deep or serious • Mask of macho-shows only a tough side and not a tender side • Mask of niceness-covering a heart of bitterness • Mask of respectability-never does anything "improper" • Mask of the intellectual-uses intelligence to separate self from others	Pick 1-2 individuals to answer each question (Q). Keep track of time during the discussion. Keep the discussion focused and on point. Avoid going off on a tangent topic. Additional notes:
Q.	**Why do people wear masks?** • To cover up who they really are • Fear of being rejected • To feel superior over others	
Q.	**According to the Bible, why do people cover up?** • **John 3:19-21** Fear of evil deeds being exposed. **Read Mark 7:20-23.** Define what the Bible calls "sin"	
Q.	**What is the commonality in this list of sins?** • All are evil, come form the inside and make us unclean. These are what people really want to hide. These are what people cover up. **Solution** • **John 3:21**-Live by truth • **2 Corinthians 5:17**-In Christ we are a new creation, and we're free to take off the masks and be transparent. • 2 Corinthians 3:12-18—It is only in Christ that we can be honest and be real. The veil is removed from our faces and we have the opportunity to reflect the Lord's glory instead of hiding who we really are inside. **Challenge** Make a decision tonight to remove the masks in your life. Be transparent, and let God clean the inside. Then we won't need to wear masks!	