

5 WAYS TO KNOW IF YOU ARE A SAFE PERSON:

1. You're true to your word
 - you choose integrity over ease
 - you are honest in the big and the small; you refrain from the occasional "white lie," even when it would make things easier
 - your yes means yes, and your no means no (aka, you do what you say you will + know your own limitations)
2. You welcome personal growth
 - you're open to constructive criticism
 - you are willing to change behavior when it is hurting someone
 - you are not defensive when someone expresses their feelings
 - you invite the truth about yourself, asking perspectives of trusted, loving companions
3. You're able to be vulnerable and seen for who you are
 - you open up to people and show them the real you, not just the you that you desire people to see
 - you have people in your life who know the hard stuff going on
 - you're able to reciprocate sharing and are not just the listening ear or advice giver
 - you can ask for help
 - flattery and gossip are no longer a means for connection
4. You are able to have hard conversations
 - you have the courage to confront real issues
 - you are honest about your feelings when necessary
 - you don't "spare" people and secretly hold a grudge
 - you can discern between picking a fight and a constructive conversation
5. You give grace
 - you can give grace to yourself
 - you can give grace to others
 - you can ask for forgiveness AND receive it
 - you refrain from judgement and assumptions

A safe person is a mature person. No one is safe 100% of the time. Everyone slips up. It doesn't make you unsafe to slip up. Just practice #5 and get back to it.