



Sunday Morning Study:
Rooms 1 Through 4

The Study... Or is It?*

~~March 3 - Intro - Abiding/Threats to Abiding~~

~~March 10 - Defining who's in my household?~~

~~March 17 - Building Strong Foundations~~

March 24 - Prayer in the Household

March 31 - Easter - No Class

April 8 - Navigating Challenges as a Faithful Household

April 15 - Cultivating a Spirit of Gratitude as a Household

April 22 - The Role of Prayer

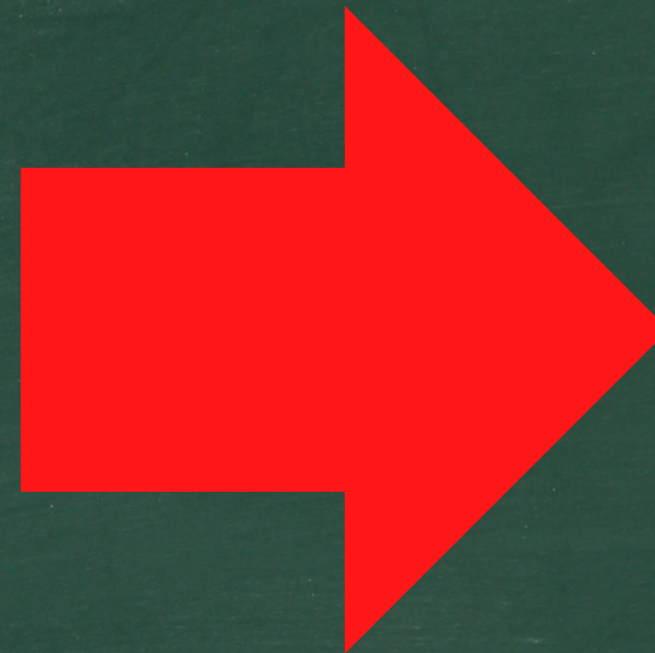
*Class subject to change based off of the make-up & needs of the group



REVIEW



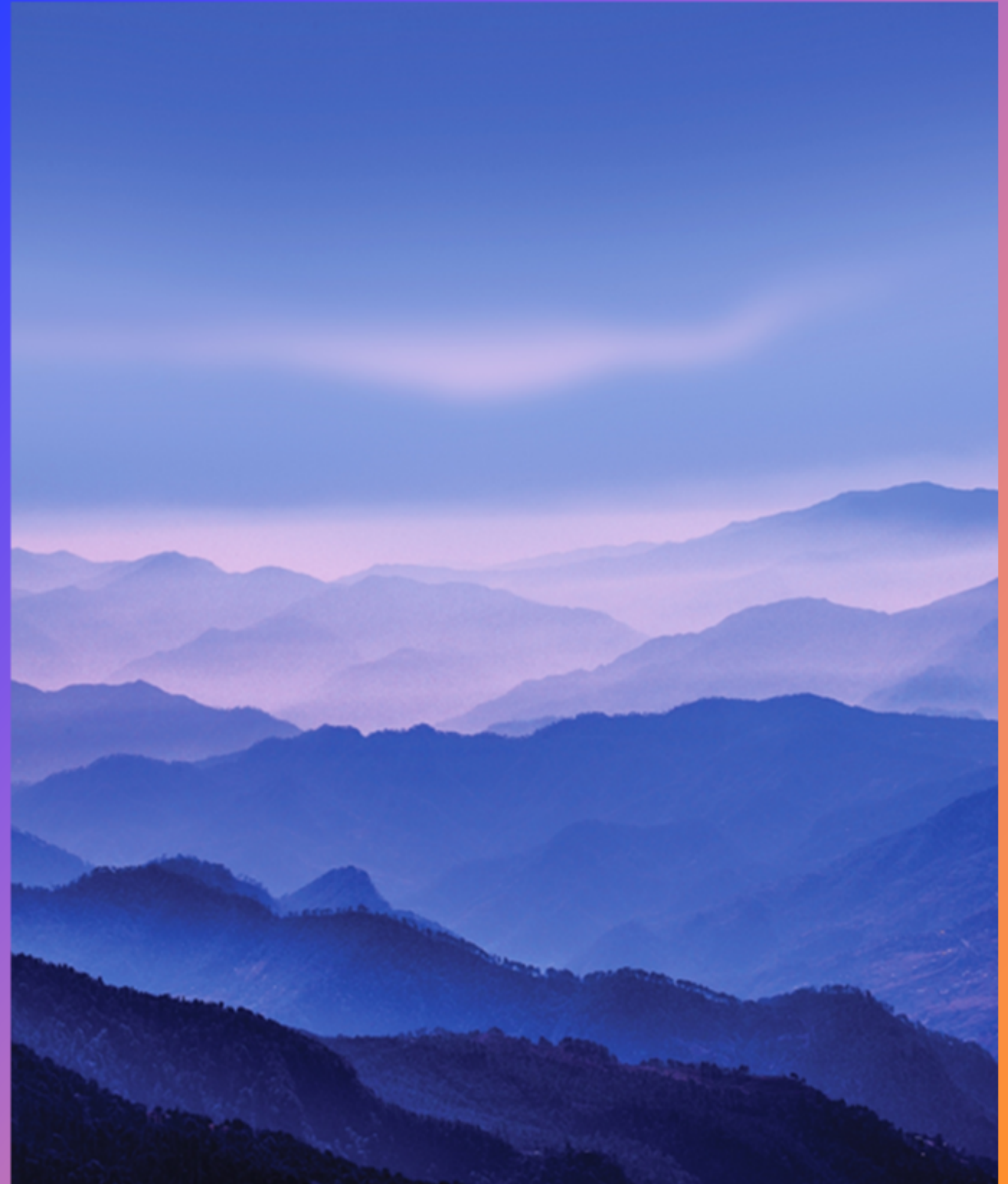
REVIEW



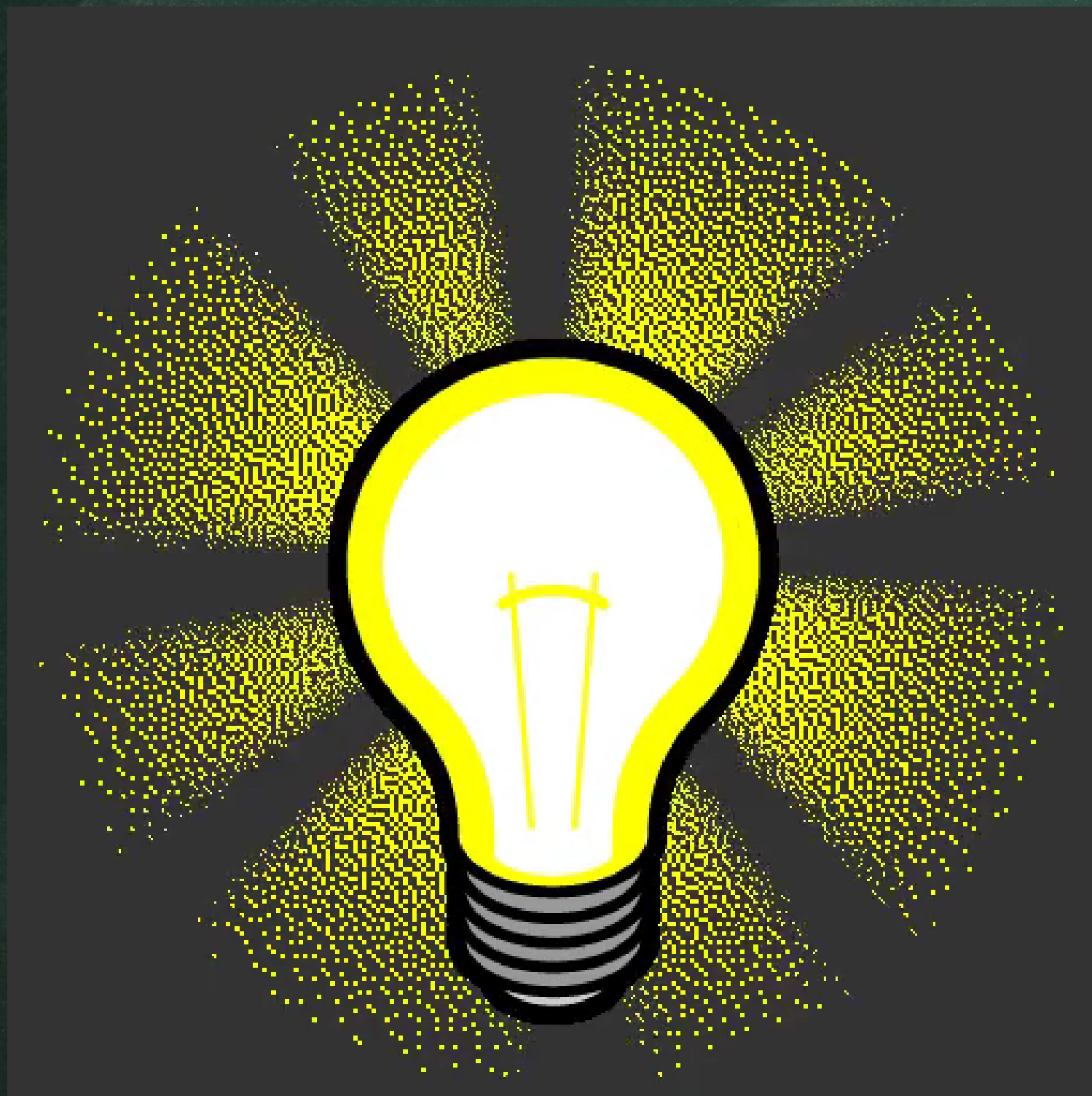
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MUNDANE

This is what we were getting at two weeks ago when we discussed **“abiding.”**

Abiding is about a relationship with another, but so much more. It’s also about communication, trust, mutual respect, shared experiences – all leading to a deep, enduring, long-lasting connection.



QUESTION:
SOOOOOOOOOOOOO.....



You're telling me
that "Faith at
Home" is more
than praying,
reading scripture,
and doing
explicitly
"Spiritual
things"?

ANSWER....



CORRECT!
(And we're going
to continue to talk
about these things



**WELL NOW THAT YOU
MENTIONED IT...**

makeameme.org



FIGURE 4.1

TODAY'S QUESTION:

How do we
intentionally relate to
God as a household
together?





GOD'S WORD ON PRAYER/SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 3:16 (NIV): "Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."



GOD'S WORD ON PRAYER/SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 6:18 (NIV): "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."



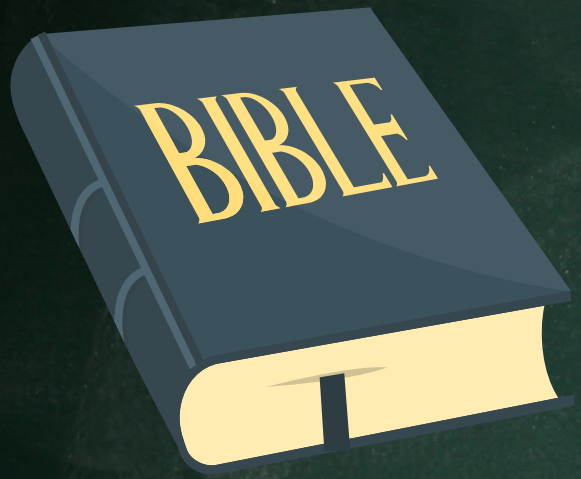
GOD'S WORD ON PRAYER/SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV): "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."



GOD'S WORD ON PRAYER/SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:20 (NIV): "For where two or three gather in
my name, there am I with them."



GOD'S WORD ON PRAYER/SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NIV): "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

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WHAT DO WE MEAN BY MESSY?

Far too often, many people have fairly
fragmented lives...



A SACRED / SECULAR
SPLIT?



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY MESSY?



Congregations have often
unwittingly ENCOURAGED
this behavior!



“There is something simultaneously exciting and scary about this. The sacred-secular split that is present at times in our Christian culture may not be too biblical, but it is quite neat...

...As a parent, all I have to do is make sure my kids go to church. Check. My role as a Christian parent is done. The church will take care of the rest. As a roommate, all I have to do is try to get my other roommates to go to small group with me. Check...

...My role in the household is done. The small group will take care of the rest. As a Christian spouse, all I have to do is go to church with my spouse. Check. As a Christian grandparent, all I have to do is get my kids and grandkids to come to church on Easter and Christmas Eve and Mother's Day. Check. Check. Check."

We haven't done a great job of
equipping, empowering, and
encouraging households



let's
DO THIS



AS A
RESULT...

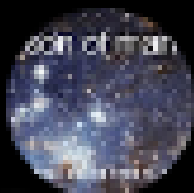


- **Have stereotypes of what things look like?**
- **Intimidated or Turned off**
- **No idea what to do individually or as a household**
- **Fly Solo in our discipleship at home (which is not bad)**









Meet the Parents - Saying Grace



Share



Watch on  YouTube




An Amazingly Awkward Prayer



Share



Watch on  YouTube

Clarification on Videos:

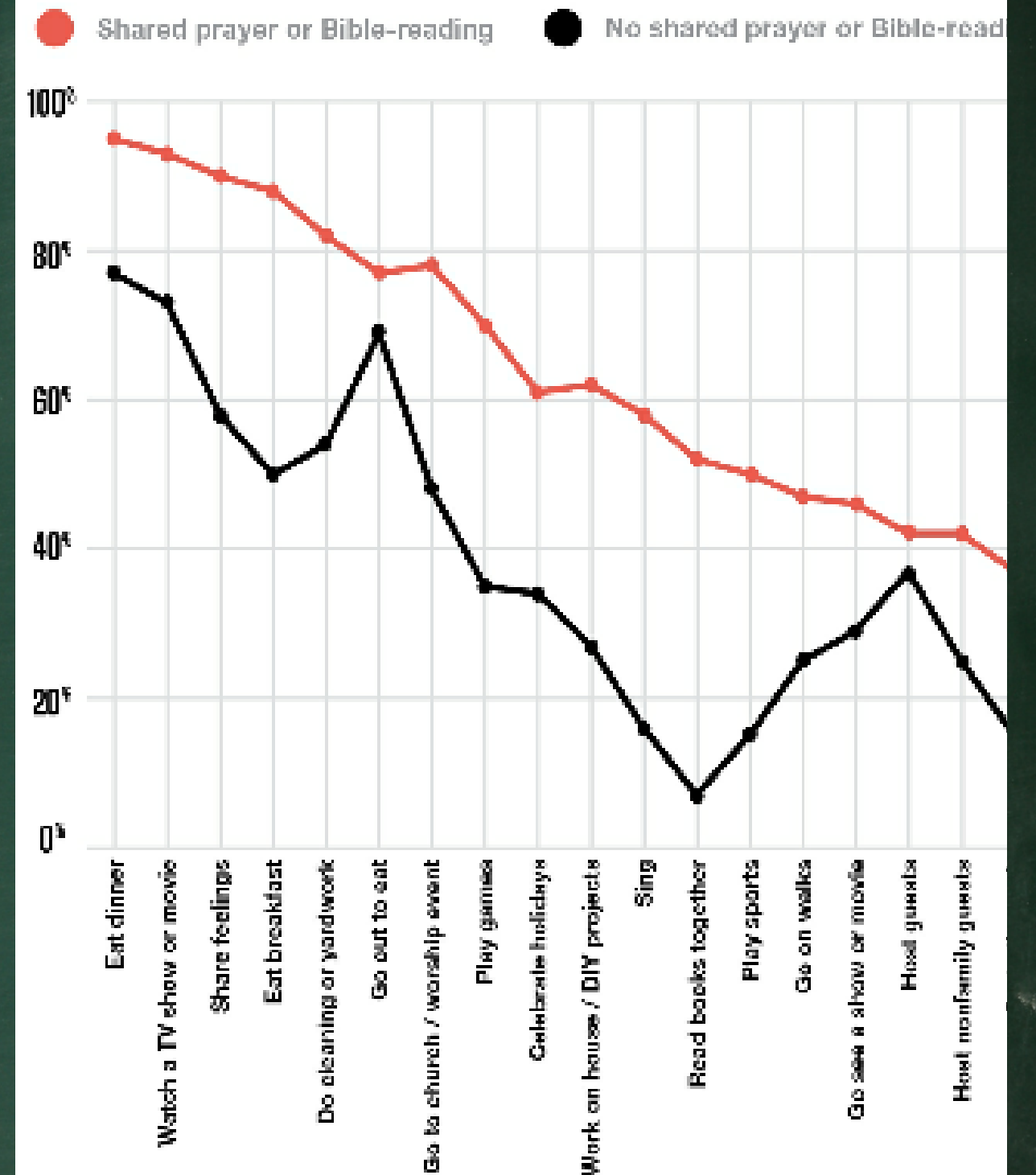


REMEMBER...

LAST WEEK

ALL HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES, BY PARTICIPATION IN SHARED PRAYER AND BIBLE-READING

PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS IN EACH HOUSEHOLD FAITH ENGAGEMENT CATEGORY WHO SAY THEY DO THESE ACTIVITIES TOGETHER WITH THEIR HOUSEMATES



n=2,042/118 practicing Christian adults and teens, April 5-11, 2016.
Question specified these as activities shared at least monthly with
"the people who live with you."

FIGURE 4.2

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Which of the eighteen activities on the bottom of figure 4.2 do you most often do together with your household?
2. How often do those in your household share prayer or Bible reading together?
3. How comfortable are those in your household with praying together?



QUESTION SET

FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. Refer back to your household map from chapter two. How do the various members of your household affect the overall spiritual vibrancy of your household?
2. Who are a few Christians you would like to have more connected to your household?
3. Think about some of the other people whose extended households you are a part of. How could you affect the overall spiritual vibrancy of their household?



QUESTION SET

CLASS DISCUSSION

1. Describe a time you had someone in your own core or extended household walk alongside you through a crisis.
2. Describe a time your prayer life or word life helped you weather a storm in life.
3. Are you in anyone's extended household who is currently weathering a storm? How could you walk alongside them?

QUESTION SET



GROUP DISCUSSION

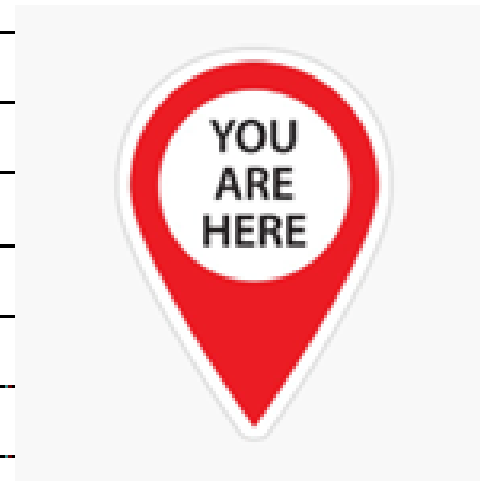
- 1.** Who most often initiates a moment of prayer or time in the Bible in your household?
- 2.** What is your own comfort level in initiating a moment of prayer or time in the Bible? (Does the news that the simple act of initiating can be a real difference maker affect your comfort level?)
- 3.** How free do you feel to initiate a spiritual moment in any of the households you are an extended member of?



QUESTION SET

ARRANGE THE KINDLING:

- "Insert an occasional prayer at specific times"
- "Get some words of scripture up on the wall"
- "Spend time together playing, eating, having fun" (Remember connection between spending time together and doing spiritual activities together)



YOUR HOUSEHOLD RELATING TO GOD TOGETHER



STOKE THE FIRE:

- "Purposefully extend your household. Bring more Christians into your household by inviting people over for a meal or event. Host a prayer event or regular Bible study in your home. Bringing the sacred into your own secular home can fight against the temptation of the sacred-secular split."
- "Together, volunteer for an event that will involve moments of prayer and time in the Bible. For example, you could all volunteer at your church's Vacation Bible School or go on a short-term mission trip together."

ADD ANOTHER LOG:

- "Start inserting short, momentary prayers into your common life. For example, if someone mentions they've had a bad day or are nervous about an upcoming event, just "go live" and say a quick prayer for them on the spot."
- "Pray a quick blessing for people who are headed out the door. Blessings can be as brief as "May God bless you and give you what you need for your big day." Simply start with the words "May God . . ." and then finish the sentence."

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A red location pin icon with a white circle in the center containing the text "YOU ARE HERE". The pin is set against a light gray rectangular background. The entire graphic is surrounded by a blue border with small square handles at the corners and midpoints, suggesting it's a drag-and-drop element. Below the graphic are several horizontal lines for writing.

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“It doesn’t take much to see your prayer
life and word life alter as a household.
Fires just need fuel, oxygen, and heat.
Get those different pieces together and
create a couple of sparks and you never
know just what might happen.

“If applying spiritual disciplines together in your household seems like a daunting new endeavor, remember that this household habit is really quite old and is how God intended households to function from the very beginning...

....Your household is made for this!”

Everts, Don. *The Spiritually Vibrant Home: The Power of Messy Prayers, Loud Tables, and Open Doors* (Lutheran Hour Ministries Resources) (p. 103).
InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.



Encouragement



Maybe God is more interested in hearing your **messy prayers and not the pretty ones.** The ones that are not scripted. The prayers that overflow with *tears of honesty* and not just those words you want others to hear. Prayers that show the real condition of your heart, yet declares the faith you have in God.

joenasandiego