



## Study Guide

### Session 1 - HOPE for Families

1. Read Acts 1:4
  - What is the command Jesus gave His disciples?
  - What is the promise Jesus gave His disciples?
2. Read Acts 1:12-15
  - How did the disciples respond to Jesus' command?
3. From the video, what did Fred describe as the five miracles of the house of prayer?
  - List the five miracles and explain them.
4. What is the definition of a "house of prayer"?
5. Respond to the statement, "Jesus is going to finish His mission on earth the same way He started."
6. What attracts you to the house of prayer?
7. In the conversation between Fred and Sherry, what stood out to you? Was there anything they said that you would like to incorporate in your own house of prayer?

### Session 2 - Houses of HOPE

1. The initial house of prayer in the Book of Acts is recorded in Acts 1 and 2. How would you describe this particular house of prayer? What characteristics did it have?
2. What are the two distinct houses of prayer recorded in Acts 3 and 4? What words would you use to describe these unique houses of prayer?
3. Read Acts 6:4. What names would you use to describe this unique house of prayer?
4. In Acts 9 we see the "private" house of prayer of Ananias and the "special assignment" house of prayer of Saul. What do we learn about houses of prayer from these two distinct models?
5. Acts 10 provides a wonderful example of the "personal" house of prayer of Peter and the "family" house of prayer of Cornelius. What appeals to you about these houses of prayer?
6. The "small group" house of prayer in Act 13:1-3 shows most of the five house of prayer miracles. Explain.
7. Acts 16 is the series that contains a sequence of several houses of prayer—the family house of prayer of Lydia, the unlikely house of prayer of Paul and Silas in prison, and the brand new family house of prayer of the Philippian jailor. What attracts you to these houses of prayer?
8. In the conversation between Fred and Sherry, what stood out to you? Was there anything they said that you would like to incorporate in your house of prayer?

### Session 3 - Open the Door

1. Read Revelation 3:20. Discuss what it would look like if Jesus walked through the front door of your home. What would He hear? What would He see? What difference could He make?

2. What common barriers to prayer have you experienced in your own home?
3. What benefit to family prayer resonates the most with you?
4. Right now, spend time opening the door to Christ in your home. Invite Him in to help you build your house of prayer.

#### **Session 4 - Start Small**

1. Read Matthew 18:18-20. What house of prayer principles do you learn from these verses?
2. Let's get personal. With whom would you most likely start a house of prayer?
3. Let's get specific. Pick a time slot that would work for you, the frequency of your gathering, and a date to start.
4. Read 1 Peter 3:7. This verse emphasized the importance of giving priority to praying together as spouses. If you are married to a Christian, how do you respond to the story Fred told about his own need to repent?
5. Fred gave a number of reasons why he was reluctant to pray with Sherry. If you have been reluctant to pray with your spouse, why? What steps can you take today to initiate prayer with your spouse?
6. When Fred and Sherry were talking together about the benefits of consistently praying for each other in their own house of prayer, what did you find attractive?

#### **Session 5 - HOPE for All Seasons**

1. In the conversation between Fred and Sherry, what stood out to you? Was there anything they said that you would like to incorporate in your house of prayer?
2. From the list of five basic houses of prayer that are available for every Christian—personal, marital, family, church, business—where will you start your first house of prayer?
3. Read Ephesians 3:20-21. Fred called this a five-stage rocket with enough rocket fuel to get your house of prayer off the ground. The verse is built around, "...He is able to do what we ask," but it adds layer upon layer, "*all* we ask, *more* than all we ask, *far more* than all we ask, *far more abundantly* than all we ask, *far more abundantly* than all we ask *or think*." What impact does this five-stage rocket have on your faith?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9. Often we think that our family problems are a hindrance to God. Instead, our weaknesses are opportunities for God. What weaknesses do you currently have in your life and family?
5. Are you willing to bring those weaknesses to Jesus and ask Him to show His power? If so, take time right now to pray one at a time for the big weakness for each person in your group.

