

LEADER PAGE |SERIES| Traditions | WEEK 1 of 7 | Sermon date: April 11, 2021

<u>Discipleship Phrase</u>: Tradition honors past, action honors present, God sees both. <u>Big Idea for Series</u>: This is why we do what we do each week.

Abiding (grow as a disciple yourself)

This week we're leaning into the pursuit of God's presence. Of course, this is something we're seeking every week however, this week's objective is to raise our overall awareness of our daily need for God's presence in our lives, our homes, and our hearts. That said, what does it look like in your own life to close the gap between you and the Lord personally? What does intimacy with God look like for you? What really helps you move into the Lord's presence, beyond corporate worship, in your home on a daily basis? For some it's playing worship music around the house, or perhaps praying at home beyond the dinner table, or for many of you reading this it simply means offering up your God given resources (your home) to be used for Life Group. However, it looks for you, lean in and ask God how might you be able to increase His presence in you this week.

Leading (facilitate your group effectively)

As you lead through the discussion this week, know that the focus is on the presence of God and inviting more of Him into our homes. Seek to understand where your group members are getting into God's presence. Is it in their homes or only at church? Ask them how exactly they know when they're in the Lord's presence and what practically helps them get there. Keep in mind everyone is different, there's no right or wrong answer here. Lastly, Question 4 could be a tough one to answer for some as it requires some real transparency and vulnerability to answer honestly when they believe God's presence is lacking in their homes. Be mindful to create a safe space and invite others into the opportunity to share courageously.

Shepherding (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

As you prayerfully consider how you shepherd this week, ask God to reveal to you how the message of 2 Samuel 6:11 resonates with you heart. Where do you feel His presence most in your life today? Share with your group the challenges you have had over the years to recognize when you've been more present than others. Talk about the steps you have taken to overcome the gaps in your life where you have struggled to find His presence and determine if there are any patterns associated therein. Bring your group into discussion about how they can find new ways to remain in the presence of God throughout this coming week.

Life Group Leader Announcement (leader specific info)

 New Episodes on the Life Group Leader Podcast! Click <u>here</u> to listen on Spotify and click <u>here</u> to listen on Apple Podcasts.

<u>Church Announcements</u> (be in the know & share with your group)

• Worship Night! Sunday April 25, 2021 6:30-8:00 PM. No reservations required.

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader."



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Welcome/Introductions (creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone)

Open in Prayer (kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (choose one that is best for your group this week)

Weekly Vision Checklist (See Flipbook re: announcements, the "why", goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching)

Ask a Hook Question (*a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction*) As a kid who did you enjoy being in the presence of (favorite person)?

Recap the Message (ask a *couple* people to share what stood out to them in this week's message)

Scriptures References (Read scriptures directly from the Bible—it carries its own authority) Luke 12:35-38 (NIV), Exodus 12:11-13 (ESV), Exodus 12:30-31 (ESV), Exodus 12:33-34 (ESV), Exodus 25:10-22 (NIV), Exodus 25:22 (ESV), 2 Samuel 6:10 (ESV), 2 Samuel 6:10-12 (ESV), 1 Chronicles 15:19-24 (NLT), 1 Chronicles 26:4-8 (NLT)

Implications (takeaways from the message)

- 1. Daily worship helps us stay ready to celebrate the moments when God comes through.
- 2. Daily worship helps us stay ready to face the hardest of times.
- 3. The presence of God ignites worship; pursue his presence relentlessly and continually.
- 4. When we invite the presence of God into our homes, everything changes—not just for us, but for generations to come.

Discussion Questions (going beyond the surface)

- 1. What does 2 Samuel 6:11 say the result of the presence of God, (the Ark), is in the house?
- 2. What does the presence of God look like in your home now?
- 3. Are you more likely to experience God's presence in your home or elsewhere? Why?
- 4. If God's presence isn't profound in your home, what is preventing that?
- 5. What is one thing you can begin doing today to invite more of God's presence into your home?

Prayer Requests (record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

Closing Prayer (ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly)

