

Facilitator's guide · Session 2

Deepen & pass on · Continuation · Next level

« YOUR HOUSE » – IN THE SENSE OF JOSHUA 24:15

« As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD » (Joshua 24:15). Here, « house » means everyone who lives under one roof: a large family, a couple, a single parent with their children – or a person alone before God. A household of one is a household. Whenever this guide says « as a family » or « as a household », hear all these situations, and make sure everyone recognizes themselves in it and finds their place – never setting anyone apart.

RULE FOR EVERY WORKSHOP · PERSONAL FIRST

Each workshop follows the same order, faithful to Back to the Altar: **first alone before God** – we write or reflect in silence – **then we share or build together**. Never have people share cold: personal silence always precedes sharing together. And before the sending, the **anchoring duo** (2 min) fixes the goal in everyone's mind.

PREPARATION

Remind participants before the session

- Bring the home worship card from S1
- Bring the prayer box begun in S1
- Pebbles or stones · 1 per household · for the sending
- Permanent markers to write on the pebbles
- Chairs in pairs face to face if Option B is chosen for Workshop B

OPTION A OR OPTION B – DECIDE BEFORE THE SESSION

Option A (letter to God) suits all groups. Option B (speaking before a witness) only if the group has been meeting together for at least 2 to 3 sessions and the fabric of trust is real. When in doubt: always Option A.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH – REVIEW BEFORE S2

Before the session, the facilitator prepares a gathering question on personal growth. The S2 questionnaire now contains questions 4 and 5 on personal prayer and personal Bible reading. If the majority answer NO to both – note: *it is the signal that the S1 card has not been used. Return to the personal commitment in Workshop A.*

▣ 0:00–0:20 OPENING · 20 min.

Worship in 4 movements & Gathering

- 1 **Gratitude · 3 min.** A lively hymn. Spontaneously invite: “Name one thing received since S1.” 30 seconds of voices in the room.
- 2 **Contemplation · 3 min.** A slow hymn. Read Exodus 34:6 quietly over the music.
- 3 **Silence · 3 min.** Open palms. A single sentence.

« Stay before Him. »

- 4 **Gathering the S1 cards · 8 min.**

« Take out your S1 card. For those who don't have it: that's information, not a fault. »

« What came alive in your home worship this week – even once, even 3 minutes? »

In pairs · 3 min. Collect 3 to 4 answers. The facilitator says only: “Thank you. It's real.”

« If your home altar this week were a flame – a bright fire, a flickering candle, or smoldering embers? »

▣ 0:20–0:40 DIAGNOSIS · 20 min.

7 follow-up questions

QUESTIONS 4 AND 5 – NEW

Questions 4 and 5 measure personal spiritual growth, distinct from home worship. If the majority answer NO: say “*You cannot feed the home altar without feeding the personal altar. That is where we begin this afternoon.*”

“*He must increase, but I must decrease.*”

JOHN 3:30

« *What you have just heard shows exactly what we are going to work on. Not in theory. By doing.* »

SPIRITUAL GROWTH – S2 DISTILLATION

In Workshop A, when the households adjust their worship sheet, ask the question: “*In your home worship – is there a moment when each member shares what they read personally this week?*” Deut. 6:6: these commandments shall be *in your heart* before being passed on. Transmission begins from within.

▣ 0:40-1:15 WORKSHOP A – Living worship with the children · 35 min.

S1: create the card. S2: live it now.

« Today your children are not watching. They are taking part. »

IT IS THE CHILD WHO CHOOSES THE ELEMENT

Take up the S1 card again. The child chooses a single element: a verse, a question, a prayer, a game from the box. Not the parent. This gesture repositions the child as an actor, not a spectator.

SHARING BACK – 3 PRECISE QUESTIONS

1. To the child: “What did you like?” 2. To the parent: “What surprised you?” 3. To everyone: “What will you do differently?” No other questions. This framework keeps the sharing from drifting.

▣ 1:15-1:25 BREAK · 10 min.

« In S1, you laid something in a container. Today we will go a little deeper into the same gesture. Not harder – truer. »

▣ 1:25-2:05 WORKSHOP B – Going deeper in forgiveness · 40 min.

Option A or Option B – decided before the session

OPTION B – CRITICAL SAFEGUARD

Option B (speaking quietly before a witness) is only suitable for groups with a real fabric of trust. If in doubt – Option A. Option B, poorly timed, wounds more than it frees. The witness replies with only one sentence: “I have heard it. God has heard it.”

« Father, we come back with what we had handed over to You – and sometimes took back. We hand this over once more. Not because it is resolved. Because we choose to no longer be its keeper. Take it. Amen. »

▣ 2:05–2:45 WORKSHOP C – The child passes it on to a peer · 40 min.

In S1, the parent passed it to the child. In S2, the child passes it to a peer. Elijah's mantle passes to the next generation.

2 KINGS 2:13-14

A SIMPLE GESTURE – WITHIN REACH OF A 6-YEAR-OLD

The child does not prepare a speech. They pass on an object from the central table and say in their own words why. Then the roles are swapped. The parents watch from a distance, in silence – without intervening.

ANCHORING DUO · 2 MIN – OPENS THE SENDING

Before the blessing: « Turn to the person next to you – not your spouse, whoever is there – and tell them the one thing you take away and will do this week. » Two sentences each. **Odd number: a trio.** Make sure no one is left without a partner – that is what includes those who are alone. Only then, the sending.

▣ 2:45–3:00 SENDING – Stone of Ebenezer · 15 min.

“Thus far the LORD has helped us.”

1 SAMUEL 7:12

« In turn – children included – each household says the word written on its stone aloud, facing the circle. Just the word. No explanation. »

« These words – that is what God has done. These stones – that is your Ebenezer. Go. The LORD goes before you. »

TRANSITION TO S3

Announce Session 3 as a continuation – not as follow-up. Ask each household to bring back its updated sheet and its prayer box. Say: “At the next session, we go out. The altar you have just strengthened – it is ready to shine out.”

S2 distills growth into 3 points:

- In the *diagnosis* : questions 4 and 5 measure personal prayer and individual Bible reading.
- In the *Workshop A* : the question “Is there a moment in your home worship when each one shares what they read personally?”
- In the *sending* : the transition sentence to S3 names that the strengthened altar is now ready to shine outward – personal growth has a missionary destination.