

## Lesson 11: “**The Home I Build Up**”

A Facilitator’s Guide for All Ages—Bible Classes, Small Groups, Family Studies, Individual Studies

### I. Lesson Outline for Bible Class (Mid-Elementary to Adult Bible Classes)

#### A. Welcome & Prayer (5 mins)

#### B. Ice-Breaker (2-3 mins)

- How would others describe your family (e.g. “sporty, fun, loud, sweet...”)?

#### C. Activity (5 mins)

- Draw a picture of your family and describe the “superpower” of everyone in the family (i.e. what does each one contribute to the family—are they the funny one, a helper, a leader, the finder, the sweet one, etc.). Hint: think of nicknames, stories of times together, or just what you love about each other). Share each person’s super-power/role (including your own!) with the class.

#### D. Discussion & Application (30 mins) – write comments on the board to build momentum & reflection.

\*Choose 3-4 discussion questions from below based on the needs of your particular class. Consider observing the recommended times or until the stories dry up. Help everyone leave with a good sense of what a Christian home looks like and how they can strengthen their home in Christ this week.

1. **A Home Built by The World (5 mins):** What are some of the greatest challenges facing the home/family today (based on opposition from the world, Satan, and other home models)?
  - a. Follow-up: How can the church help reshape the world’s view of the home/family?
2. **A Different Kind of Home (5-10 mins):** What does a Christian home/family look like? Consider specific aspects of the home, such as: love, unity, roles of each person, attitudes, time, money, priorities, communication, media, social media, language, habits, spiritual disciplines, etc.? Share scriptures that reveal these aspects of a Christian home.
  - a. Follow-up: How have your expectations of your own home changed over the years?
3. **Unity, Love, Submission, & Leadership in Your Home (10-15 mins):**
  - a. **Unity:** How do you preserve unity in your home/family? How do you help everyone feel unique but also equal in your home? What are some common values, practices, and sources everyone rallies around in your home? What is your family’s mission/purpose in life?
  - b. **Love:** How do you show love in your home/family? How do you encourage/discourage certain behaviors? How do you seek & grant forgiveness? How do you deal with inter-personal conflicts between spouses, parent/child, siblings, pets, etc.?
  - c. **Submission/Leadership:** How do you model, train, and encourage submission to Christ and one-another in your home/family? How do you train submissive leadership to Christ and others?
4. **Building Christian Homes Together (5 mins):** Has your family experienced a unique event or overcome a particular challenge that could help other families build a Christian home? What are some scriptures, experiences, resources, & people who have helped you build love, unity, submission, and leadership to the Lord and others in your life and home?

#### E. Application and Homework (2 mins to explain):

**Believe:** Consider what your home would look like if Jesus was in charge of it this week?

**Act:** Choose 1 thing to add more of, less of, or alter that would make your home full of more unity, love, submission, or leadership toward Christ this week.

**Teach:** Share your desired goals with another family and learn from them. Tell us how it's going on [College Church Chat](#) or in person next week in Bible class.

## II. Lesson Outline for Bible Class (Birth to Mid-Elementary)

**Believe:** Teach about the value and role of every person in the home/family (mom, dad, brother, sister, children/parents, grandma/pa, pet, etc.). Use stories or passages in the Bible to illustrate (e.g. Gen 1-3; Col 3; 2 Tim. 1:5; Mary/Martha/Lazarus). Use pictures, songs, videos, or act this out to bring it to life.

**Act:** Invite each child to share the “superpower” of each person in their family—maybe their mom is “the encourager,” dad is “the fixer,” brother is “the comedian,” sister is “the brain.” Talk about how each of them are vital to their family. Also talk about how God is the one who leads the family, and we all follow him in love, unity, submission, and leadership in our homes and toward others.

**Teach:** See if each child can remember the superpower of someone else in the room, God's role in the family, and how they are supposed to show love, unity, submission, and leadership in their homes. Bonus points if they can tell their parents what they learned and come back next week being able to share what they did to carry out this lesson.

## III. Lesson Outline for Small Groups & Families

**Believe:** Have everyone (all ages) contribute to one picture about what makes a Christian home/family. Discuss how your family or small group does this well, and areas where you could improve. Share scriptures that illustrate the ideal of the Christian home and ways to become a better Christian family.

**Act:** As a family or small group of families, decide 1 thing your family will do differently to become more loving, united, submissive, or a leader for Christ.

**Teach:** Ask other families or small groups what they came up with as keys to building a Christian home/family. Encourage one another with your goals and progress along the way.

## IV. Lesson Outline for Individual Study

**Believe:** Spend some time reflecting on what only you can contribute to your family. How have you been loving, uniting, submitting, and leading your family? How could you do better in one or more of those areas? Search the scriptures and pray for guidance in these specific areas.

**Act:** Make a plan to improve in 1 area of love, unity, submission, or leadership this week. Start small and build on your change over time.

**Teach:** Share your plan with someone else and hold each other accountable as you grow in building up your Christian home/family.

## V. Additional Scriptures & Discussion Questions for Weeks 2-4 (Bible Class, Small Groups, Families, or Individual Study)

General Prompts

1. What is the world teaching us to believe or not believe about the home/family? How is the world teaching us this? What difference does it make if we believe or don't believe the world?
2. How is this difference communicated in the world—whether in movies, tv, books, social media, or told by other religious groups?
3. What *resources & people* have helped you come to better know, live, & share a Biblical view of the home/family? What *strategies* have you used that have helped you build up your own Christian family?

## **Week 2: Love — Read 1 Cor 13**

Discuss how each verse in 1 Corinthians 13 can be applied to showing love in the home/family. Which act of love is a strength of your family's? Which act of love would you like to see more of in your family? Which one are you particularly good at showing and which one is a growth area for you? What would it look like if all Christian families exhibited all of these aspects of love? What is one thing you and/or your whole family could do this week to show this kind of love for one another and the world? Use examples from the Old Testament and New Testament to help inspire practical applications of love for one another and the world, such as: Hosea, Ruth & Boaz, parents who bring their sick children to Jesus, Proverbs and Song of Solomon, 1 Peter 3:1-7, Hannah, Noah, Rahab, etc.

## **Week 3: Unity - Read Deut 6 and Eph 4**

Discuss how the unity of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is a perfect example of harmony in uniqueness (each person of the Godhead has their role) and equality (each person of the Godhead is equally God). Discuss how your family has unique members but every person has equal value. What is the role of each person in your family? Talk about a time when your family was really united? What about a time when you were divided, and how did you handle it? Consider the unity of God and the family as it relates to evangelizing the world in Deuteronomy 6. Consider how Ephesians 4 talks about the oneness of God that leads toward oneness in the body; how can your family be more unified in purpose? How can it be more committed to the oneness of God? And how could your greater unity with God and one another bring the world to greater oneness with God through your family?

**Week 4: Submission & Leadership — Read Eph 5-6 and Col 3. You can also consider stories of families/ individuals who model submissive leadership in their families** (e.g. Aquilla and Pricilla; Lois and Eunice and Timothy; Moses and Aaron and Miriam; Mary and Martha and Lazarus; Jesus's own family)

Discuss how each member in the family is to submit to one another out of reverence to Christ. What would it look like for each member to do this? Discuss how each member of the family is to lead the rest of the family toward Christ. What would it look like if you each did that? Discuss how each member of the family is to submit to Christ yourself first. Discuss how each of you could do that better this week. What are some things that only you can do for your family? What are some things that only others in the family can do for you? How can your family unite as one to help other families? Consider which characters or families in scripture are good examples for you and your family as you consider submissive leadership to Christ and one another.