Session 40: Service Starts at Home: House, Family, and Neighbors

Phase 5 — Giving Back: Service, Leadership & Purpose · Block 1 — Service: Giving Back

Date: _____ My craving today (0–10): _____ One word for my week: _____

What we're learning

Living amends (Session 24) repaired specific harms; ordinary service is the daily fabric underneath: dishes done without announcement, a yard kept, a call made on the day promised, a house rule carried without being chased. Family and housemates do not measure recovery by testimony; they measure it by Tuesdays. Service at home is unglamorous, unrecorded, and the most credible witness a person in recovery owns.

- Home is the first congregation The people under your roof experience your recovery before anyone hears about it. If it does not work at the sink and the table, it does not work.
- Unannounced counts double Service done for credit teaches the house to discount it. Do the job, leave it clean, let them discover it. Trust rebuilds at exactly that speed (Session 27).
- Neighbors are the near field The person in the next room, the next bunk, the next house: near enough to help this week, ordinary enough to keep it honest.

Goals for this session

- ☐ I can name the service owed first to the household I live in and the family I came from
- ☐ I can identify one neglected home duty and schedule it
- ☐ I can distinguish ordinary kept responsibilities from the specific living amends of Session 24

Check-in

What is one job at home — here in the house, or with your family — that everybody knows is yours, and everybody knows you dodge?

Discussion — write your answers

Write what you would say out loud — and more, if it comes. There is no right-length answer; there is only an honest one.

1. What does your household currently carry that should be partly yours?

2. Why is serving at home harder than serving strangers? Be specific.

3. What one home duty will you take over this week — and how will the house know it is permanently yours?

4. What home job did you circle, and what day does it start?

Session 40 — Skill Practice

The home audit (solo writing, then pairs): list every recurring job in your current household down the left of the page; mark who does it now on the right. Circle one job that should carry your name. Pairs review for honesty: is it real, is it recurring, is it yours to take? Each person states the job and the day it starts, out loud, to their partner.

My household jobs — who does each one now:

The job I circled, and the day it starts:

My takeaway

The one thing from this session I most need to remember — in my own words:

Homework — this week's application

☐ Take over the circled job this week and do it on schedule, unannounced. If your family is not under your roof, make the scheduled call or visit you named instead, on the day you named it.

Space to do the homework and note how it went:

An optional Scripture handout for this session is available from your facilitator on request.