

Pastor Raymond Beaty
The Home I Left, the Home I Built, the Home I Copied



USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

1. The home I left
2. The home I built
3. The home I copied

[Philemon 1:8-12 NIV]

“Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus— that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you.”

[Philemon 1:13-16 NIV]

“I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever— no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you recall putting "systems" in place to cope with your upbringing or any environment you were subject to?
2. In every home there were things we wanted to "leave" what are some things you wanted to leave behind when you left your home?
3. What has changed now that you have decided to live in the house God wants you to build?
4. Are there some things you thought you left behind that still show up on occasion? Why is it so difficult to leave those things behind?
5. TFH is a big church and the potential to feel lost is real, do you feel like you belong? If so what have you done to get connected, if not what can you do this week to begin the process of belonging.

6. What are somethings you have learned in the house of God that you have copied into your house or what are somethings you know you need to copy but haven't yet?
7. Where are you at now, and where are you going? Have you identified what your next step is in copying the House of God and implementing it in your house? What is it and what will you do about it?
8. Make this declaration as a group:
"I don't live there anymore. I am building a new home, I belong here."