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## Session: Our Home Trivia

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### Description

There's a prayer we pray in the Christian faith that says in part... "Thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven". With the arrival of Jesus, the Kingdom of Heaven came to earth. Many Christians believe that the Kingdom of Heaven is here now since the Spirit of God is in us. But sometimes focus so much attention on preparing to die, getting into heaven, that we don't pay attention to getting heaven into us.<sup>1</sup> We live the lives we do in preparation for eternity, but what we do and how we behave, how we love others here on earth matters as well. Do we trust in the goodness of God, and each other with the belief that God is here with us as we do life together as a family?

Part of the practice of Stability is to be still long enough to acknowledge God, and heaven within us. There's a richness in living into that intimacy daily with God, and with each other rather than spending every moment in a whirlwind of activities never pausing to be fully present. We might tell ourselves that we would be happier and live a more peaceful life in another family or another place, but committing to stay, to be present, helps us understand the truth of who we are as individuals and who our family is as a collective whole. Stability (staying) means that over time, we can learn to love better, acknowledging our faults and flaws, as we restore peace and learn to forgive others and ourselves.

It's impossible to discern God's will for your family without sitting down together, sharing your thoughts, beliefs and feelings, and then learning together how best to live out what you believe – bringing heaven to earth.

Stability is partly about the commitment to a sense of place. In this session you will look at snapshots (images) taken in your home (or homes if you live in different places). As a fun way to reinforce your sense of place, and how well you know each other and your living spaces, you will try to guess what the image is of, and where it's located.

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### Materials Needed

Images taken (in advance) on your phone (or printed out) of different parts of, or items in, your home(s). Family members will try to guess where that image is in your home so the photographer should try to make it challenging with close-ups or interesting angles. If family members live in another location have them take a few photos and add those into the mix.

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### Handouts

None

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### Read aloud the quote or scripture

“Your life requires your mindful presence in order to live it. Be here now.”  
– *Akiroq Brost*

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### Questions for discussion (10 minutes)

1. What do you think it means to be fully “present”? If you had to estimate, what percentage of your time do you spend thinking about the past or future versus being fully present now? What are the pluses and minuses of that? Explain.
2. What is your greatest distraction in life? Explain. What distracts you most from God?
3. Older generations often stayed at the same church for a lifetime. What are your thoughts on this? Do you think future generations will do the same? Explain.
4. Is organized religion today serving its purpose? Explain. Would you change it? If so, how?
5. Do you believe that God is “omnipresent” – present everywhere at all times? Do you believe that God is present with you and involved in your everyday life? Explain

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### Rule of life activity

1. Our homes contain items that are special to us, and that play a part in the daily fabric of our lives. A piece of art that’s been in the family a long time, a favorite kitchen mixer that the family uses to bake cookies. At a deeper level, these items connect to our shared values.
  2. Today you will reinforce your personal connections to each other as a family and your sense of place – illuminating that feeling of stability by way of shared experience.
  3. Get your phone with the images (materials list) on it, or the photos that you have printed out. If you are doing this on ZOOM with a family member at another location, they should do the same.
  4. Start with the first image and pass it around to each family member. Each person guesses what it is, where it is in the home, and if it belongs to a certain person, who it belongs to.
  5. After every family member has had a chance to guess, the person who took the image can share the answer.
  6. As you do this, ask why family members gave the answers that they did. If the item was personal or special (like art or a mixer), what does that say about that person or your family? Why is that item special?
  7. Continue this until you have gone through each image.
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## Examen

How did it go? Debrief highs and lows

1. Each person shares their favorite part of the conversation / activity and why.
  2. Each person shares their least favorite part and why.
  3. Did you do a Serving/Giving activity last week? How did it go?
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Serving /giving ideas for any time this week: Choose one or create your own. These can be done individually or as a group. You will be sharing your serving experience in the next session.

- Organize a neighborhood scavenger hunt. Older neighbors could put something in their window or participate by placing something in their yard to be found by families.
- Create awards to celebrate the everyday heroes in your community like mail carriers or grocery store workers.
- Set up a free lemonade stand. Take donations for the charity of your choice.
- Start a community garden, or your own garden and donate some of the food you produce to the local food bank.
- Write a letter to your local government leaders advocating for something your family values.

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<sup>1</sup> Dallas Willard, *Renovation of the Heart: Putting on the Character of Christ* (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2002).