

# A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month: My Heart Christ's Home

Text for the Week: Matthew 7:21-27

Message for the Week: "May I Come In...To The

Study?"

Theme for the Week: Jesus needs to fill the control room of our heart

Week 3

## Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

If were to begin furnishing the study (or office) in your house, what is one book, one movie, one magazine, one game, and one photograph that you would include within it?

### **Preparation:**

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

#### Read:

Read Matthew 7:21-27 and out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

### **Respond / Reflect:**

What connotations does the word obedience create for you?

Why do ask / insist that children obey?

Are you a Christian or a disciple? What is the difference?

How are you growing spiritually as a disciple of Jesus?

What does it cost you to follow Jesus? What does it cost you not to follow Jesus?

### "Try It!"

Memorize Philippians 4:8:

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Pick up and read a copy of the booklet, "My Heart, Christ's Home" by Robert Munger. Editions for both adults and children are available in the narthex.

Try keeping a spiritual journal this summer of what you are learning through this series - both through the messages and in your personal times with God.

### **Prayer:**

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you.

Pray this prayer: "Lord, I want this heart of mine to be Yours. I want You to settle down here and be fully at home. I want You to use it as Your own. Let me show You around and point out some of the features of the home so that You may be more comfortable. I want You to enjoy our time together. AMEN"

## Spiritual Practice for the Month: Prayer of Examen

At the end of each day this month, pray a daily prayer of examen—a prayerful review of your day. Where did you see Jesus? Where did you feel Him knocking at your door? Review the decisions you made today. Would you make any changes to those decisions? Keep a journal of these times with God.