

LESSON 4 // INSTALL A SECURITY SYSTEM—PART 2

Big Idea: Your "house" is who you are and what you are building with your life. As we learned in our last lesson, installing a "security system" in your house begins with nurturing words, attitudes and actions that create an atmosphere of care.

Then you also need to focus on your personal relationship with God, letting go of any shame and processing pain from your past; take responsibility for managing your emotions and building your relationships in a healthy way; cleanse and sanctify all spiritual access points; and pray and proclaim God's promises.

Ephesians 4:29-32 (NIV) Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Group Discussion:

This weekend we continued learning about what we need to protect our houses from spiritual attack. What part of the message spoke to you the most and why?

Many of our houses are being eroded and "robbed" because of shame and pain from the past. In order to protect our houses from these two things we need to let go of shame and process the pain from the past. What areas of your past need closure or healing?

Think about a time you felt strongly about something. What emotion did you feel? How did you express it? How do you typically process what you're feeling? What are some healthy ways you can process your future emotions?

Media, music, books, etc. are entry points to your spiritual house. Can you commit to detoxing from these things one day this week and spending that time in prayer and scripture instead? Reflect on what you learn and take note of any areas that were hard to give up.

Read Matthew 16:19. The "keys of the kingdom" include prayer and proclamation of the promises of God's word over your house. What promise can you pray and proclaim each day this week?

Prayer Focus:

Lord, help us to guard our hearts against the attacks of the enemy. Help us to heal from shame and past pain and fix our thoughts and hearts on you. In Jesus' name, amen.