



Small Group Guide: The Threshold Covenant

Overview

This session explores the concept of the threshold covenant -- the biblical truth that Jesus Christ, as the bridegroom, crosses the threshold of our lives and households, bringing with him the full authority, protection, resource, and power of the kingdom of heaven. Drawing from Old Testament imagery, ancient cultural practices, and the promise of Revelation 3:20, this guide will help your group reflect on what it means to welcome the presence of God and surrender to all that he has already accomplished.

Key Takeaways

- **The threshold is a place of covenant.** In ancient cultures, the threshold of a home or temple was a sacred boundary marked by blood sacrifice and dedication to a deity. Scripture reframes this imagery around the blood of Jesus Christ and the covenant he establishes with his people.
- **Revelation 3:20 is an invitation, not a distant promise.** When Jesus knocks and we open the door, he enters as the bridegroom -- bringing every resource, authority, and protection of the kingdom of heaven into our household.
- **The cross is the ultimate threshold covenant.** What Jesus accomplished at Calvary is finished and complete. The invitation before us is not to earn access but to receive what has already been provided.
- **The presence of God displaces every competing power.** Just as the Ark of the Covenant, representing the presence of God, rendered the idol Dagon powerless in its own temple (1 Samuel 5:1-5), the presence of God in our households, our lives, and our gatherings renders the enemy impotent.

- **Healing and breakthroughs happen in the atmosphere of his presence.** When we turn our attention to the Lord together, our faith increases, our expectations rise, and God becomes more tangible to us -- not because he grows, but because we see him more clearly.
 - **Dedicating our households matters.** Surrendering our homes, families, and lives to the lordship of Jesus Christ is an active, ongoing posture of faith -- not a one-time event.
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Discussion Questions

Opening (Getting the Conversation Started)

1. Have you ever experienced a moment where you felt the presence of God in a tangible, unexpected way -- either in a church service, at home, or somewhere else? What was that like?
 2. When you hear the word "threshold," what comes to mind? How does the idea of crossing a threshold -- physically or emotionally -- resonate with you in your own life?
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Going Deeper (Engaging the Sermon Content)

3. Pastor Paul described the threshold covenant using the image of a bridegroom crossing the threshold and bringing his full resource and protection into the household. How does that image change the way you think about Jesus entering your life or your home?
4. In 1 Samuel 5:1-5, the presence of God -- represented by the Ark of the Covenant -- caused the idol Dagon to fall and break at the threshold of its own temple. What "Dagons" -- competing powers, fears, or strongholds -- might be present in your own household or life that the presence of God is meant to displace?
5. Pastor Paul made the point that God does not get bigger when we worship -- but he becomes bigger to us as our faith and attention turn toward him. What disciplines or habits help you turn your attention toward the Lord in your daily life?
6. Revelation 3:20 describes Jesus knocking at the door and promising to come in and dine with anyone who opens it. What does it look like practically to "open the door" in your household, your relationships, or your daily routine? Is it more about the things you do . . . or the things you think?
7. The sermon referenced the covenant God made with Abraham in Genesis 15, where God himself passed between the pieces of the sacrifice -- taking on the full weight of

the covenant. What does it mean to you that God initiated and completed this covenant rather than placing the burden on us?

8. Pastor Paul emphasized that the work of the cross is finished -- that all authority, protection, and resource are already available to the household of God. If that is true, what prevents us from living as though it is? What does surrender look like for you personally?
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Personal Reflection

9. During the closing prayer, the pastor led the congregation in welcoming the Lord into their households and surrendering their own wisdom, power, and strength. Is there an area of your life where you have been relying on your own resources rather than the provision of the Lord? What would it look like to release that to him?
 10. The sermon closed with a blessing spoken over children and future generations -- declaring that they belong to the household of God. Who in your life -- a child, a grandchild, a friend -- do you feel called to pray over and bless in this season?
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Practical Applications

This week, consider putting one or more of these into practice:

- **Dedicate your household intentionally.** Set aside time this week to pray over your home. Walk through each room if you are able and verbally invite the presence of the Lord into that space. Surrender your household to his lordship, protection, and purpose.
- **Practice turning your attention.** Each morning this week, before reaching for your phone or beginning your routine, take five minutes to turn your full attention to the Lord. Notice how your faith and expectations shift when you begin the day in his presence.
- **Speak a blessing over someone.** Identify one person in your life -- a child, a spouse, a friend, a coworker -- and speak a deliberate, specific blessing over them this week. You do not need a formal setting. A text, a phone call, or a quiet moment together is enough.
- **Reflect on the finished work of the cross.** Write down one area of your life where you have been striving in your own strength. Beside it, write the words "It is finished." Spend time in prayer asking the Lord to help you receive what he has already provided in that area.
- **Share a testimony.** If you have experienced healing, breakthrough, or a tangible encounter with the presence of God -- recently or in the past -- share it with your

group or with someone in your life. Testimony builds faith in others and reinforces what God has done.

Closing Prayer Focus

As you close your group time, pray together over your households and families. Ask the Lord to make his presence tangible in each home represented in your group. Declare that your households are dedicated to the name of Jesus Christ and that every competing power is rendered powerless by his presence. Pray specifically for the children and future generations connected to your group, speaking inheritance and belonging over them as members of the household of God.