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## Growth Group Homework

For the week of March 30 – April 4, 2020

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### GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. How are you doing? How are you trying to find a new routine during this “Shelter in Place Order”? What is your joy? What are some of your challenges?
2. What is one of the most important lessons you learned these days?

### GOING DEEPER (used from the book, “Ultimate Reliance” by Sue Nelson Kibbey, 2019)

1. Please read Luke 11:5-10.
  - a. The Greek word Jesus used here for “persistence” was also utilized to mean recklessness, audacity, shamelessness, even daring. Is this the characteristic of the Pickaxe Breakthrough Prayer practice of you or your group or your church?
2. Keep Asking, Seeking, Knocking is a one-sentence breakthrough prayer practice that becomes useful when you have, perhaps unintentionally, lapsed into investing your energy primarily in ministry activities and to-do lists, rather than also spiritually positioning yourselves through proactive Pickaxe Prayer to be shaped by God as artists of a potential new future.

Arrange a closed door (feel free to come up with ways such as; make a picture of a closed door or just ask people to imagine in their mind)

- a. How would you describe the symbolic “closed door” that you just identified? Has the “door” been closed for a long time, or only recently?
  - b. Have you attempted to “open” it on your own, or even break through it yourself? If yes, what happened?
  - c. If you have already prayed about the “closed door” you named, share with the group what the nature of your prayers have been. For what have you asked God regarding the closed door? Have you asked once, or regularly ongoing?
3. Now open the door that’s been closed, (show another picture of a door open or ask people imagine so) and keep it open. Allow everyone in the group to reflect on what different feelings might now surface, and how the atmosphere in the room might have changed by opening the door. Let each person share whether the opened door seems to pull you forward and invite you to walk through. Or does having the door open seem to violate the intimacy of your group with its unknown beckoning-and invite a sudden threat that someone or something unknown from the “outside” could enter?

### TAKING IT HOME (Application)

1. Pray aloud the “Keep asking, seeking, knocking” Pickaxe Breakthrough Prayer, or a one-word prayer-hold, that you intend to practice as your spiritual discipline for this particular breakthrough prayer practice in the days to come. Name your “take-away” learning about Pickaxe Prayer and what you feel led to implement both as a church member and in your personal faith walk following Jesus.

Prayer Requests: Share prayer requests and respond appropriately.



#### **Growth Group Community Service Project**

We ask every group to take on at least one service project a year (the ideal is two) and to have at least one social gathering (potluck) per half a year. Please consider with your group members of what community service you'd like to participate in. There is a project list made by our church that you can join in and outside the church.

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#### Reference

- Sue Nelson Kibbey, *Ultimate Reliance*, Abingdon Press, Nashville, 2019