



Study Guide for Groups
Episode 4: Homeless
Topic: Homelessness

Listen to the interview with Carol and with Keary Kincannon, pastor of Rising Hope Church. Engage the group with the following discussion questions, or feel free to summarize your own responses and questions.

- What was it like for you to listen to Carol’s story? What sorts of things did you feel toward Carol, her children, and her situation as you listened?
- Remember a time when you went past a homeless person or interacted with them. What was your “gut” reaction? What did you feel toward this person? Did you have any conflicting feelings such as empathy and criticism at the same time? Discuss some of your ideas and biases towards homeless people in your area.
- One of the ideas in this interview is that homelessness affects people who sometimes have little or no control over their situation or may become homeless because of the actions of others. Discuss different ways that people could become homeless through little or no fault of their own.
- Consider the segment featuring Rising Hope Church. How is your church or community working with homeless people? Discuss some of the organizations and churches that are active in your area and talk about ways you know that you and others could get involved.
- Rising Hope Church empowered homeless persons to speak up at civic meetings about their needs and suggest ways the community could consider to make things better. Discuss how this is helpful. Do you see any opportunities for speaking out on issues in your community?
- Jesus spent a lot of time with the poor and spoke a lot about providing for those in need. What are some of your favorite biblical stories and passages that encourage you to help people who are in need? How do those passages remind you and inspire you to serve?

Listen to the “My Turn” segment featuring a review of the movie “Julie & Julia.” You can use the following questions to guide your discussion about the movie or, if you haven’t seen it, have a discussion about the media’s influence in your life.

- If you saw the movie “Julie & Julia” discuss how it influenced you – what did you take away from the movie about life, family, meaning, and purpose in life?
- In general, what kind of influence do media (movies, television, and news outlets) have on you and your family? Are you happy with how much it influences your family? Why or why not?