



Study Guide for Groups
Episode 5: After the Storm
Topic: Service

Listen to the interview with Pam about volunteer and service work and engage the group with the following discussion questions, or feel free to summarize your own responses and questions about the program.

- Tell your story. How have you been involved in service or volunteer work in the past or right now? What was that like for you? In what ways did those experiences change you?
- Pam had thought for a long time that she ought to be involved with volunteer work, but it wasn't until a flood hit a nearby town that she actually got involved. Sometimes people want to serve, but they don't know how to get plugged in. Discuss some of the places and ways people in your area can volunteer and serve through organizations, churches, or individually.
- How do you feel about the statement, "Well, I give a lot of money and so I don't need to volunteer and give my time"? Discuss your thoughts around this statement.
- Jesus spent a lot of time talking about the importance of caring for the poor and 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?
- At the beginning of the show Burton mentioned that *"as bad as the physical destruction is, it's the bending and breaking of the human spirit that lingers the longest. ... The people left in the wake of a storm not only deal with lack of housing, but lives altered forever."* When basic physical necessities have been taken care of after a crisis, relief workers often go back home. In what ways can volunteers and relief organizations continue to help people put their lives back together after basic needs have been met?
- Why is it sometimes harder to be served than to do the serving, as Pam discovered?

Listen to Sam Heatwole read a story from Jim Fairfield's book *Frog Hollow Journal* and discuss the following questions. (*Frog Hollow Journal* is available at ShapingFamilies.com)

- What were your reactions to the story about Ivy in *Frog Hollow Journal*?
- Sam talked about a person living out a quiet, simple faith. Think of someone in your life who has lived out a simple and quiet faith but has been an inspiration to you. How has their life inspired you?