



DISCOVER THE NEW SERIES
**THAT BRINGS US CLOSER
TO THE ONES WE LOVE**



GOING HOME

FROM THE STUDIO THAT BROUGHT YOU **WAR ROOM** AND **RISEN**



DISCUSSION GUIDE



OVERVIEW

GOING HOME is a moving inspirational drama set in Sunset House, an end-of-life medical center. Charley is a seasoned hospice nurse: she's seen it all, and she's compassionate but hardened. Everything changes when her long-lost college roommate, Katherine, appears with a somber announcement: she's dying of cancer.

This guide contains spoilers and is intended for use after viewing ***GOING HOME***.
This study guide provides resources for biblically-based discussion.
This guide is an excellent tool for group or personal study.

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EPISODE 1

THEMES: HOPE

This world is not our home. While we grieve earthly death, we await the promise of an eternal home with Christ. The characters in **GOING HOME** must wrestle with both loss and hope. What does hope look like when a loved one faces the end of their life?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- The characters in **GOING HOME** must balance hope with acceptance of death. How does Charley walk this balance as a hospice nurse? Why do you think she won the Best Hospice Nurse of the Year award so many times?
- As his son lays on his deathbed, Harry says, “I’m praying for a miracle. Why is that wrong?” And Charley replies, “It’s not. But you can pray for more.” Do you agree?
- Charley is shocked when Katherine shows up at Sunset House and asks for her help. Why does Charley say no?

SCRIPTURES REFERENCED:

Hebrews 13:14 (NLT): “For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come.”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 (NLT): “And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died.”

EPISODE 2

THEMES: PEACE

It is easy to be afraid when someone you love is dying. But Scripture tells us that perfect love casts out fear. In Christ, we can find peace no matter what we face. Charley must walk alongside an elderly couple as they address their fears of the future.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- In Episode 2, husband and wife Vance and Betty are afraid for each other. Vance is fearful because his wife is dying—and she fears he won't be able to take care of himself. Discuss how they work through their grief. What ultimately releases Betty from her fear?
- Betty says she is excited to see what heaven turns out to be. What excites you about heaven? Is there anyone you are waiting to see again?
- Charley says, "Death isn't the opposite of life; it's a part of life. Passing can be peaceful and beautiful." How can this outlook help someone who's processing the death of a loved one? Reflect on Philippians 4:7—what does it mean to have our hearts guarded?

SCRIPTURES REFERENCED:

John 14:27 (NIV): "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Philippians 4:7 (NIV): "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Romans 12:12 (NIV): "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

EPISODE 3

THEMES: SURPRISES

No matter how much we plan for the future, surprises happen. Change is inevitable. In Episode 3, Charley prays that God would help her help Katherine as they navigate this difficult and surprising turn of events.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Charley says there are good surprises and bad surprises—even though she doesn't like to be surprised at all. What has been a good surprise in your life? A bad one?
- Randall, the Vietnam War veteran, is suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and experiencing visceral nightmares. Why does Charley change her mind to let him stay at Sunset House? Discuss how she cares for him with dignity.
- At the end of each episode, Charley sits outside and talks to God. What do you notice about her prayer life? What does your prayer life look like? Reflect on 1 Peter 5:7 as you answer this question.

SCRIPTURES REFERENCED:

James 1:17 (NIV): “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”

1 Peter 5:7 (NIV): “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

EPISODE 4

THEMES: FORGIVENESS

Sometimes we need to forgive others: other times, we need to forgive ourselves. In this episode of **GOING HOME**, Charley and her patients must grapple with the past and what happens when we finally let deep wounds heal.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- “Hiding one’s pain is a sign of strength,” says Fay, a wealthy woman who worries about her son Kenneth. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Fay must learn to forgive herself for being absent in her son’s life. Why is it important to forgive yourself? Have you experienced this in your own life?
- The hymn “It Is Well With My Soul” runs throughout Episode 4, and the words are a balm to many characters. Is there a song that has deep spiritual meaning for you? What is it?

SCRIPTURES REFERENCED:

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV): “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Psalms 32:1 (NLT): “Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight!”

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV): “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

John 8:32 (NIV): “Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

EPISODE 5

THEMES: CALLING

For Charley, her work as a hospice nurse is more than a job. It's a calling. As she struggles to live out her vocation, a dying daughter leaves letters of encouragement for a grieving mom to read.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Katherine says about Charley, "I've never met anyone with a calling before." What is the difference, for you, between a job and a calling? Review Ephesians 4:1. Have you felt a calling in your life?
- "Blessings bounce," writes Steph, who's dying of Huntington's disease. "If you need a blessing, be a blessing." Reflect on this advice that Steph writes to her mother. If you were leaving a letter behind for a loved one, what would you write?
- Consider 2 Corinthians 1:4. How does Charley use her difficult past experiences as a way to create connections with her patients?

SCRIPTURES REFERENCED:

Ephesians 4:1 (NLT): "Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God."

Ephesians 4:29 (NLT): "Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them."

EPISODE 6

THEMES: COMFORT

God comforts us in all our troubles—and sometimes, we can comfort others. As her health deteriorates, Katherine navigates her role as a mother in spite of her terminal illness. And she makes a very important request of Charley.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- In Episode 6, Charley reveals that she had long prayed for a spouse and a family, but that her vocation as a hospice nurse became her life's duty and comfort. She says, "It's not what you look at, it's what you see. Once I understood that, I gratefully accepted this beautiful calling." What do you think she means here?
- As she spends time with her old friend, Charley softens. Describe the change you see in her character. How is she showing new sides of herself to Katherine?
- At the end of Episode 6, Katherine asks her friend to do something very important. Why does she ask this? How do you think it affects—or helps—her own grieving process?

SCRIPTURES REFERENCED:

2 Corinthians 1:4 (NLT): "He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us."

Philemon 1:7 (NIV): "Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people."