



# Upper Room Diversity

---

## WHY THE UPPER ROOM IS THE CENTERPIECE OF CIVILIZATION

---

Rev. Fred A. Hartley, III  
December 2018

The Upper Room (GK. HUPERON) is a flat rooftop used throughout the Middle East for social space, to gather with friends in privacy, safety and comfort.

**For us, the “Upper Room” is used as a metaphor to describe a Christ-encountering prayer environment of any kind.**

There is no limit to the diversity, scope, size, complexion, and configuration of an Upper Room. Just consider the Upper Rooms documented in the Book of Acts.

**1. The larger Upper Room. (Acts 1-2)**

“And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers (the company of persons was in all about a hundred and twenty).” *Acts 1:13-15*

**2. The spontaneous Upper Room. (Acts 3)**

“Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. And a man lame from birth was being carried...and Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, ‘Look at us.’ And he fixed his attention on them...But Peter said, ‘I have no silver and gold, but what I do have, I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!’ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.” *Acts 3:1-8*

**3. The urgent Upper Room. (Acts 4)**

“When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. And when they heard it, they lifted up their voices together to God and said, ‘Sovereign Lord...stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.’ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.” *Acts 4:23-31*

4. **The personal Upper Room. (Acts 10)**

“Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray...and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. And there came a voice to him: ‘Rise Peter; kill and eat.’” *Acts 10:9-13*

5. **The special assignment Upper Room. (Acts 9)**

“Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, ‘Ananias...rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay hands on him so that he might regain his sight.’” *Acts 9:10-12*

“So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized.” *Acts 9:17-18*

6. **The small Upper Room. (Acts 13)**

“Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.” *Acts 13:1-3*

7. **The house church Upper Room. (Acts 16)**

“And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, ‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.’ And she prevailed upon us.” *Acts 16:13-15*

“And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ And they said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’ And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.” *Acts 16:29-34*

Get more great resources for spiritual growth at [www.collegeofprayer.org](http://www.collegeofprayer.org).

Connect with us on social media at [/collegeofprayer](https://www.collegeofprayer.org):

