

August 31, 2026

What Does Your House Stand For?

August Series: Christ-Centered Relationships

Week Focus: Stronger Families

Scripture – Joshua 24:15 - *“But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”*

Devotional Reflection

Every household is being shaped by something. Our schedules, priorities, habits, conversations, and repeated choices quietly communicate what matters most to us. We may never formally decide, **“This is going to be the culture of our home,”** but a culture develops anyway. What we repeatedly prioritize eventually becomes normal, and what becomes normal begins revealing what our household truly values. The question is not whether our homes are being shaped, but **what is shaping them.**

Joshua understood that spiritual direction requires intentional decisions. After reminding Israel of God’s faithfulness, he challenged the people to choose whom they would serve and then made his own declaration: **“As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”** This was more than a statement about believing in God; it was a declaration of allegiance. Joshua was saying that the Lord would have the defining place in his life and household. His declaration reminds us that Christ-centered homes do not develop accidentally—we must intentionally choose to make God central to the way we live.

Jesus should therefore become visible not only in what we say we believe, but in the ordinary rhythms of our homes. Our families learn what matters to us by watching what receives our time, shapes our decisions, influences our responses, and determines our priorities. If we say God comes first while consistently giving everything else our best attention, our practices eventually communicate something different from our profession. Our households do not need perfection, but the people closest to us should increasingly see evidence that **following Jesus affects the way we actually live.**

As followers of Christ, our first response should not be to evaluate everyone else in the household. Joshua begins with the words **“As for me.”** Before considering what our spouse, children, parents, relatives, or anyone else needs to change, we can invite God to examine us. Whether we are married, single, raising children, raising grandchildren, living with extended family, or living alone, each of us can influence the spiritual culture around us. **Stronger families begin with surrendered people making faithful choices.**

Today, consider what your everyday choices are teaching the people closest to you about what matters most. Ask God whether your schedule, priorities, conversations, and habits reflect the place you say He holds in your life. You do not have to transform your entire household overnight; begin with one intentional act of faithfulness. Before asking God to change everyone around you, pray, **“Lord, start with me. Help my life clearly show that You are at the center.”** A stronger family can begin with one surrendered person deciding, **“As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”**

Focus for Today

Spiritual direction begins with intentional decisions. What we consistently prioritize reveals what we truly value.

Practice

Take a few minutes today and honestly examine your normal household rhythms.

Ask yourself:

What does my schedule say matters most?

What receives the best of my attention?

Where is God visible in the normal rhythm of my life?

Then identify **one intentional choice** you can make today that communicates:

“In this house, God matters.”

It may be praying with someone, opening Scripture, putting away distractions during family time, apologizing for something, expressing gratitude, or simply asking:

“How can I pray for you today?”

Start small. Start intentionally. But start.

Prayer

Father, thank You for reminding me that the spiritual direction of my life requires intentional choices. Search my heart and show me what my priorities, habits, and decisions are communicating about what matters most to me.

Where I have allowed other things to occupy the place that belongs to You, realign my heart. Help me not merely profess faith publicly but live it faithfully in the places and relationships closest to me.

Before I ask You to change anyone around me, start with me. Let my choices increasingly demonstrate that Jesus is Lord of my life. Help me build a culture through my everyday faithfulness that honors You and points others toward Christ.

Today I declare:

As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Reflection Question

If someone looked only at my everyday choices and priorities, what would they conclude matters most to me—and what is one choice God may be asking me to change?