

September 4, 2026

A Faith Worth Following

August Series: Christ-Centered Relationships

Week Focus: Stronger Families

Scripture – 2 Timothy 1:5 - *“I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.”*

Devotional Reflection

When we think about what we hope to leave our families, our minds may naturally turn toward what we can provide—opportunities, stability, wisdom, memories, resources, or something tangible that makes their lives better. Those things can be meaningful, but Scripture reminds us that some of the greatest things we leave behind cannot be placed in a bank account or written into a will. **One of the greatest gifts we can leave our families is a credible example of what it looks like to faithfully follow Jesus.**

Paul saw this kind of legacy in Timothy. He remembered Timothy’s **“sincere faith,”** but he also recognized that Timothy had witnessed that faith before it became his own. Paul points to his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice, whose lives placed an authentic example of faith before him. Their faith could not save Timothy or make his decision for him; he had to personally respond to God. But their example reminds us that while **we cannot choose Jesus for another person, we can live a life that consistently points them toward Him.**

A faith worth following is not a faith that pretends life is always easy. Our families need to see us pray when we do not know what to do, trust God when circumstances do not make sense, repent when we are wrong, forgive when forgiveness is difficult, and continue following Jesus when obedience costs something. They do not need the illusion that we never struggle; **they need to see what sincere faith looks like in the middle of the struggle.** Sometimes the strongest testimony we leave is not that we never fell, but that they watched us continually return to God.

As followers of Christ, we must remember that legacy is being formed in ordinary moments long before anyone calls it legacy. Every prayer, act of obedience, apology, decision to put God first, and moment when we continue trusting Him is helping tell the story of what our faith really means. We may never fully know how deeply someone is being influenced by watching our walk with Christ. **What we practice consistently today may become part of the spiritual foundation someone else stands upon tomorrow.**

Today, consider the kind of faith your life is demonstrating. Do not focus on appearing perfect; focus on being sincere. Live something real, consistent, repentant, prayerful, and dependent upon Jesus. Your family may forget many things you said, but may they remember that when life became difficult, **you kept turning toward God.** The greatest legacy you can leave is not merely something your family can inherit—it is a life that continually showed them where to look. **Live a faith worth following because it faithfully points them to Jesus.**

Focus for Today

Legacy is built through ordinary faithfulness repeated over time.

You cannot choose Christ for someone else, but you can live a faith that consistently points them toward Him.

Practice

Think about the people who are watching your life—children, grandchildren, relatives, friends, or others God has placed within your influence.

Ask yourself:

“If someone learned how to follow Jesus by watching me, what would they learn?”

Then choose one way to make your faith intentionally visible today:

- Pray with someone.
- Share something God has taught you.
- Tell someone how God has been faithful.
- Admit where God is still growing you.
- Encourage someone who is struggling.
- Demonstrate forgiveness.
- Choose obedience where it is difficult.
- Thank someone whose faith has influenced yours.

If someone helped shape your faith, consider contacting them today and simply saying:

“Thank you for showing me what following Jesus looks like.”

Prayer

Father, thank You for the people whose faith has helped point me toward You. Thank You for every prayer, example, sacrifice, word of encouragement, and act of faithfulness that helped me see what it looks like to follow Jesus.

Help me live a sincere faith before the people You have placed around me. Keep me from trying to appear perfect. Instead, let them see something real—a life that prays, repents, forgives, trusts, perseveres, and continually returns to You.

I know I cannot make anyone else choose Christ. Their response belongs to them. But I can choose what kind of example I place before them.

Give me grace to live a faith worth following and, above all, a faith that continually points beyond me to Jesus.

May the choices I make today become part of a godly legacy tomorrow.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Reflection Question

If the people I love remembered one thing about the way I followed Jesus, what would I want it to be—and am I living that kind of faith today?