

Series: Focusing on *Your* Family
Message: Fathers of Faith
Text: Joshua 24:13-33 (AM 6/17/17)

Faithful fathers are on the endangered species list in America and fathers of faith are almost extinct! Now more than ever we need to rediscover the art of fatherhood in our culture and His Church. There is no better example in all of Scripture of what embodies a father of faith than Joshua. Today at the climax of his illustrious career and amazing life Joshua challenges Israel's fathers to follow His example and "*Choose this day whom they will serve...as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!*" Today God is challenging our fathers to lead their families by example to fully follow the Lord.

1st They're Confident in the Father (13) "*I have given you a land...*"
A father's secret is trust

2nd They're Converted to the Faith (14a) "*Now therefore, fear the Lord...*"
A father's salvation is transcendent

3rd They Contribute to the Fellowship (14b) "*Serve Him in sincerity...*"
A father's service is a testimony

4th They're Conscientious of the Fight (15) "*Choose...whom you will serve*"
A father's struggle is telling

5th They're Committed to the Father (15b) "*As for me and my house...*"
A father's stand is transcendent

6th They're in Community Faithfully (16-21) "*We will serve the Lord...*"
A father's Sabbath is a tradition

7th They're Confident in the Future (31) "*Israel serve the Lord all the days*"
A father's success is a testament

Application to life: God has squarely placed the responsibility of shepherding the home and discipling the children upon the father. Joshua laid down the gauntlet before the Nation in our text and before the Church today. Studies reveal that families usually follow the example of the father. Dad's may we seize the moment and lead our homes to *Serve the Lord!* Our Heavenly Father expects it, our family is dependent upon it and our culture hinges upon a father's commitment of faith.