

FAITH BEGINS AT HOME

Week 1

Put A Word on the Wind

“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” — Joshua 24:15

Faith does not begin when we walk into church on Sunday.

It begins in how we talk to each other at home.

How we forgive.

How we serve.

How we respond when something goes wrong.

How we pray when we do not know what to do.

How we make room to hear God.

And how we prepare our hearts before we ever enter the sanctuary.

This week, do not try to make your home perfect.

Make it intentional.

MONDAY

DECIDE WHAT KIND OF HOME THIS WILL BE

Focus: “As for me and my house...”

Faith at home starts with a decision.

DO THIS:

Take five quiet minutes and ask:

What do I want people to consistently experience in this home?

Choose **three words**.

Examples:

- Peace.
- Love.
- Grace.
- Joy.
- Honesty.
- Prayer.
- Safety.
- Forgiveness.
- Kindness.
- Service.

Write your three words somewhere you can see them this week.

SAY THIS:

“God, help what we believe about You become visible in how we live.”

HONEST REFLECTION:

Does the atmosphere of my home currently reflect what I say I believe?

TUESDAY

PUT THE WORD IN THE HOUSE

Focus: Scripture belongs in ordinary life.

You do not need to preach a sermon.

Start with one Scripture.

DO THIS:

Read **Joshua 24:15** out loud.

Then ask:

“What do you think it means for our house to serve God?”

There are no perfect answers required.

Allow questions.

Allow conversation.

Allow different generations to talk.

KEEP IT SIMPLE:

One Scripture.

One question.

Ten minutes.

HONEST REFLECTION:

When was the last time Scripture was discussed in my home outside of preparing for church?

WEDNESDAY

TURN DOWN THE NOISE

Focus: Hearing God requires room to listen.

- Phones talk.
- Social media talks.
- News talks.
- Friends talk.
- Algorithms talk.

But everybody cannot have equal volume.

DO THIS:

Choose **15 minutes tonight with no screens.**

- No television.
- No social media.
- No scrolling.
- Sit quietly.

Read **John 10:27**: “**My sheep hear my voice...**”

Ask God: “**What have You been trying to show me that I have been too distracted to notice?**”

Write down whatever comes to mind.

FAMILY CONVERSATION:

Ask: “**What has had too much of our attention lately?**”

HONEST REFLECTION:

Am I asking God to speak louder while refusing to turn anything else down?

THURSDAY

PRACTICE WHAT YOU PRAY

Focus: Faith must be seen, not just said.

Tonight is about one small act of service.

DO THIS:

Do something for somebody in your home without being asked.

- Wash something.
- Clean something.
- Cook something.
- Help somebody.
- Check on somebody.
- Listen without interrupting.
- Make the call.
- Run the errand.

ASK:

“What can I do today that would make somebody else's load a little lighter?”

Remember:

Calling does not always begin with something big.

Sometimes calling begins with a simple **yes**.

HONEST REFLECTION:

Do the people closest to me experience the servant that everybody else sees?

FRIDAY

CLEAR THE AIR

Focus: Grace has to live here too.

Read **Colossians 3:13**.

Then think about the relationships closest to you.

DO THIS:

Before the day ends, say something that may be overdue:

- “I’m sorry.”
- “I was wrong.”
- “I forgive you.”
- “Can we try that conversation again?”
- “I should have handled that differently.”
- “I love you.”

Do not force reconciliation where serious harm or unsafe circumstances exist. But where pride, misunderstanding, or ordinary conflict has built a wall, take one healthy step.

HONEST REFLECTION:

Is there something I am asking God to fix that requires me to change how I am responding?

SATURDAY

PUT A WORD ON THE WIND

Focus: Stop only talking about what is wrong. Speak life over what can become.

Gather around the table, sit in the living room, call somebody you love, or simply stand in your home.

DO THIS:

Speak one sentence of faith over every person connected to your house.

Examples:

- **“God has purpose for you.”**
- **“You are loved here.”**
- **“We are going to make it through this season.”**
- **“God is still working in your life.”**
- **“You do not have to have everything figured out today.”**
- **“I believe in who God is shaping you to become.”**
- **“Our family can heal.”**
- **“Peace can live here.”**

Then pray for your household by name.

PREPARE FOR SUNDAY:

- Before going to bed:
- Set out what you need for church.
- Decide what time you need to leave.
- Limit unnecessary late-night distractions.

Pray: **“Lord, prepare my heart for what You want to say tomorrow.”**

HONEST REFLECTION:

What words have been repeatedly spoken in my home? Are they producing life or draining it?

SUNDAY

DON'T JUST ATTEND. ARRIVE READY.

Church should not be the first time you have thought about God all week.

It should be the **gathering place of what God has already been doing at home.**

BEFORE CHURCH:

- Do not start the morning with chaos if you can help it.
- Play worship music.
- Speak kindly.
- Pray before leaving.

ON THE WAY:

Ask:

“What are you believing God to speak to you about today?”

AFTER CHURCH:

Do not let the sermon end in the parking lot.

Ask: **“What is one thing from today that we need to practice this week?”**

That question turns church attendance into discipleship.

IF YOU ARE MARRIED WITH CHILDREN

Your children are watching more than they are listening.

Let them see you:

- Pray together.
- Apologize to each other.
- Disagree without dishonoring each other.
- Serve one another.
- Speak well of one another.
- Forgive.
- Laugh.
- Tell the truth.
- Let them ask difficult questions about God without making them feel guilty for asking.

THIS WEEK:

Have **one meal with no phones** and ask:

“What is something you wish we did more of as a family?”

Listen before responding.

IF YOU ARE A SINGLE PARENT

Faith at home does not require two parents.

Do not measure your household against somebody else's household.

Build faithfully with what God has placed in your hands.

THIS WEEK:

Choose one consistent rhythm you can maintain:

- Prayer before school.
- Scripture during breakfast.
- A conversation in the car.
- One family meal.
- A bedtime blessing.
- A Saturday check-in.
- It does not have to be elaborate.

Consistency will matter more than complexity.

And remember: intergenerational faith means you do not have to do everything alone.

Identify trusted grandparents, godparents, mentors, church members, and spiritual family who can help reinforce what you are building.

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

Your home still counts.

Faith begins at your home too.

A Christ-centered home is not defined by how many people live there.

Your home can become a place of:

- Prayer.
- Peace.
- Healing.
- Hospitality.
- Rest.
- Scripture.
- Worship.
- Service.

THIS WEEK:

Create one place in your home where you intentionally meet with God.

- A chair.
- A desk.
- The kitchen table.
- The porch.
- Then invite somebody into your life.
- Call a younger person.
- Check on an elder.
- Invite somebody to dinner.
- Encourage somebody.
- Living alone does not mean living disconnected.
- Your home can become a place where other people encounter the love of Christ.

IF YOU ARE A GRANDPARENT OR OLDER ADULT

Do not underestimate what you carry.

Somebody younger than you needs more than your correction.

They need your story.

THIS WEEK:

Tell someone younger:

- How God carried you.
- A mistake God taught you through.
- A prayer God answered.
- A season you survived.
- A Scripture that has kept you.

Then ask them:

“What are you dealing with in your generation that you wish my generation understood better?”

And listen.

Intergenerational ministry requires **both generations to speak and both generations to listen.**

THE KITCHEN TABLE QUESTION

Once this week, everybody should answer:

WHAT DOES OUR HOME NEED MORE OF RIGHT NOW?

- More prayer?
- More peace?
- More laughter?
- More honesty?
- More boundaries?
- More forgiveness?
- More time together?
- More Scripture?
- More listening?
- More discipline?
- More encouragement?
- More rest?
- Don't answer for everybody else.

Start with yourself.

BEFORE NEXT SUNDAY

Ask yourself:

What did I practice this week that I normally only hear preached?

Because the goal is not simply to attend another Sunday.

The goal is to become a different kind of person Monday through Saturday.

- Put faith in your house.
- Put prayer in your house.
- Put Scripture in your house.
- Put service in your house.
- Put forgiveness in your house.
- Put listening in your house.
- Put encouragement in your house.
- Put “I’m sorry” in your house.
- Put “I believe in you” in your house.
- Put “God is not finished with us” in your house.

And every week, make the declaration again: **“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”**

FAITH BEGINS AT HOME.

I especially like the **“Kitchen Table Question”** because it can become the repeating piece for the entire month. Every Sunday Pastor Brown can give them **one new question to take back to the table**, so the sermon keeps living after benediction.