

III. MAKE A COVENANT TO SERVE

A. Make your covenant.

“24 And the people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!”

25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.” Joshua 24:24-25

B. Establish symbols for your covenant.

“26 Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

27 And Joshua said to all the people, “Behold, this stone shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD which He spoke to us. It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God.

28 So Joshua let the people depart, each to his own inheritance.” Joshua 24:26-28

“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” Romans 6:4

“5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” Deuteronomy 6:5, 9

FIND HOME WITH RELATIONSHIPS TODAY!

WELCOME HOME Finding Home With Relationships Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Home is where the heart is...Make yourself at home... Home sweet home...Home away from home. This list goes on and on. We sure do like to talk a lot about “home”.

At home you are family. You are safe and you can be yourself. You are loved and you are cherished.

God desires to welcome you home and for you to experience all the aspects of being home. Romans 15:7, says.

“Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” (ESV)

The problem is most people have never found “home”. This sad reality breaks God’s heart and it should break our hearts.

B. Our Welcome Home teaching series will teach you how to find “home” in four different ways. This series features the following messages:

June 28	Welcome Home...Who You Are In God’s Family
July 5	Finding Home With Jesus
TODAY	Finding Home With Relationships
July 19	Finding Home With Church
July 26	Finding Home With Heaven
August 2	Bringing Others Home

C. **TEXT:** Joshua 24:14-28 (Pew Bible/Pg. 233/Old Test.)

These words are given by Joshua at age 110. They are his final instructions before his death. He focuses on the importance of serving God. The word “serve” or “served” is used 16 times in this chapter. He teaches us how to find home with relationships by serving God together!

HOW TO FIND HOME WITH RELATIONSHIPS

I. CHOOSE TO SERVE GOD

A. Forsake false gods.

“Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!” Joshua 24:14

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.”

Psalm 111:10

“Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.”

I John 5:21

B. Follow the true God.

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

Joshua 24:15

- Make A Public Choice.
- Make A Personal Choice.
- Make A Persuasive Choice.
- Make A Positive Choice.

“Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: ‘I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God.’”

Isaiah 44:6

II. SERVE GOD WITH THANKFULNESS

A. Go all the way with God.

“So the people answered and said: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods;” Joshua 24:16

“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,” Deuteronomy 10:12

B. Remember what God has done for you.

“17 for the LORD our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. 18 And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He is our God.” Joshua 24:17-18

“Serve the LORD with gladness;...” Psalm 100:2a

“1 Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:” Psalm 103:1-2