

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK



 Ruben & Nancy Quiroz | United States

1. Both Ruben & Nancy had COVID-19. It brought Ruben close to the point of death. Praise the Lord that Ruben survived and is well.
2. I continue preaching online and reaching out via text and telephone to all of our members.
3. We are so thankful for Capital Baptist Church and can't express how much you have helped Iglesia Bautista Internacional.

GROWTH
GUIDE

WELCOME
Home

Handout: 07/05/20

Study: 07/12/20

Finding Home With Relationships

The challenge hit the air like a lightning strike. The old general was 110 years old. His time on this earth was almost done, and he was delivering essentially his last word to his people. After wandering with the Israelites for 40 years, leading them into the Promised Land, and shaping them into a nation, what was the most pressing thing on old Joshua’s mind? A call to commitment.

“If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve” (Joshua 24:15 NIV).

Joshua knew that his people had a sometimes-fickle relationship with God. They were easily annoyed. They got distracted. They were impatient. They made demands. They wanted God to do what they wanted God to do. So, before leaving them, Joshua knew it was time to draw a line in the sand. He was calling them to a decision: Choose whom you will serve—whether it’s God or something else.

What would that challenge sound like to us today? If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves whom you will serve: whether career, where you sacrifice your time, or money, in which you place your trust; whether the praise of men, which fuels your ego, or possessions, through which you view your worth; whether guilt, which enslaves your mind, or pride, which hides who you really are; whether relationships or social media or fantasy football or politics. If not the Lord, whom will you serve?

We, just like the Israelites in Joshua’s time, face an endless list of things we could put in front of God. We may or may not have more false gods available to us today, but they certainly look different than they did back then. Either way, the result is the same: These distractions come between us and God, and they compete with the Creator for our time and devotion.

As a result, just like our ancient ancestors, we’re easily annoyed. We get distracted. We’re impatient. We make demands. We want God to do what we want God to do. We’re standing at the moment of decision, and Joshua is drawing a line in the sand for us, too: Choose this day whom you will serve.

Oh God, give us the strength and commitment to answer along with Joshua, “As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15 NIV).

Source: “Whom Do You Serve?” by Allen Harris

KEY VERSE

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

“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.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Joshua 24:14-28

Introduction

1. How have relationships impacted your service to God?
2. What can we learn from today’s scripture reading about serving God in a community?

Tuesday: Joshua 24:14; Colossians 3:1-11

Forsake False Gods

3. How did idolatry impact Israel’s ability to serve God? Why did Joshua call upon Israel to make a choice?
4. Are there things in your life that you put before God? Why are these things attractive? How are these things destructive?

Wednesday: Joshua 24:15; John 6:66-69; Isaiah 44:6

Follow the True God

5. How has God demonstrated to you that He is the true God? How is He greater than all the other things we might put ahead of Him?
6. How has your life demonstrated your choice to follow God?

Thursday: Joshua 24:16-18; Psalm 9:1-2; Colossians 3:15-17

Serve God With Thankfulness

7. How did Israel answer Joshua’s challenge based upon today’s scripture reading?
8. What great things has God done in your life? List some of them here.
9. How can being thankful cause you to serve the Lord better?

Friday: Joshua 24:24-28; Romans 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:5,9

Make A Covenant To Serve

10. How many times in Joshua 24 did Israel affirm their desire to only serve God?
11. What did Joshua do to commemorate Israel’s decision to serve God? What are some things you do to remember your commitment to serve God?
12. What did you learn this week about serving God as part of a community?