

"Make Up Your Mind"

Joshua 24:2-7; 14-18

I. The Fear of the Lord is the Foundation for Faithfulness (v. 14)

A. Fear is the First Step

1. Fear Leads to Deeper Faith

Fear- An awe and respect that acknowledges God's unmatched authority and your absolute dependence.

2. Worship God Wholeheartedly

Sincerity- blameless, undivided loyalty

Truth- means faithfulness to God's revealed will

A. Worship must be both *pure* in motive and *right* in method.

B. Our lifestyle must match God's revealed standards, not just what we feel is right.

C. 4 areas to monitor the fear of the Lord in your life:

- **Trust** – God's Word over my feelings.
- **Service** – God's glory over my comfort.
- **Obedience** – God's will over my wants.
- **Worship** – God's greatness over my busyness

3. Your History is Not Your Destiny, Break the Cycle.

Idol- Anything you refuse to surrender in our pursuit of God; An idol is anything you have to check with before you say "yes" to God.

A. Identify and eliminate any old "family idols" generational patterns, priorities, or pursuits you've inherited that keep you from God.

4. Without Fear We Will Be Unfaithful to God

Disagreeable- *considered worthless, undesirable, or not worth the effort in the eyes of the hearer.*

A. Guard Your Heart of Against 2 Temptations

They Lost Sight of God – When you stop looking at Him, you start drifting from Him.

They Valued Idols More Than God – Whatever you prize above Him will eventually replace Him.

5. Commit with certainty

A. Choose with a sense of urgency

B. Follow your convictions not the consensus.

C. Commitment isn't built on convenience; it's built on conviction.

II. God's Track Record Demands My Total Commitment (v. 17-18)

1. Remember Who Brought You Out (v.17a)

Deliverance - God brought them out of Egypt and out of slavery.

- When God brings you out, He's not just changing your location, He's changing your identity.
- If you forget who brought you out, you'll drift back into what He brought you from.
- God delivers you from something for something.

2. Recognize His Power and Protection (v.17b)

Preservation - He performed great signs and kept them through the journey.

- God's power isn't just what got you started it's what keeps you going.
- You don't even know the number of attacks God has blocked on your behalf.

3. Rejoice in His Victory (v.18a)

Victory - He drove out nations before them, including the Amorites.

- *Every enemy that fell was proof that God's promise stands taller than any obstacle.*

4. Set Your Heart on Service (v.18b)

Devotion- "We will serve the LORD, for He is our God."

- When you truly know Him, service isn't a duty it's your declaration
- Real faith doesn't just confess God with words it crowns Him with your life.
- Today is not about emotion it's about resolution.