



Sermon Series: Real Faith for Real Life
Sermon Title: Trusting God With Your Family
Date: 10/11/2026

Big Idea: Lead those God has entrusted to you. Trust God with what only He can do.

Who is responsible for the salvation and spiritual transformation of your family - God or you? If you think it's you, you will live in fear. But if you understand what God has entrusted to you - and what only God can do - you can live faithfully without fear. Ephesians 6:16 tells us to take up the shield of faith. You are called to carry the shield. You are not called to be the shield. This isn't blind faith. It's confidence in the faithfulness of our great God, so you don't need to anticipate every attack.

Every family is affected by sin. Some follow Jesus, some are spiritually indifferent, and others are openly resistant to God. But every family needs God's grace. The good news of Jesus interrupts broken patterns. You may have inherited brokenness, but in Jesus you are not doomed to repeat it. To trust God with your family, here are three critical actions to take.

Choose your allegiance!

Joshua 24:15 asks the question: who is your master? Before Joshua asks Israel to choose, he reminds them of everything God has already done. God's faithfulness comes before ours. Joshua isn't saying "try harder." He's saying, look at the God who has brought you this far, and now decide whom you will serve. But Joshua could only challenge their allegiance - he couldn't give them new hearts. That is what Jesus came to do. So ask yourself: are you sharing what God has done for you with those in your care?

Live your allegiance.

Ephesians 5:33-6:4 gives God's pattern for a faith-filled family: husbands sacrifice, wives honor, children obey, and parents train. As basic as these instructions are, people stumble over them again and again. Home is not a

place to be served but a place where everyone learns to serve. When a household is marked by love, respect, obedience, and care, your home becomes a window through which your children can catch a glimpse of what God is like. A transformed life that others can see is **Ephesians 6:4** in action.

Entrust your family to the Lord

This is the most important step. **Psalm 127:1** describes two natural responses: laboring foolishly or staying up all night worrying. But not every family outcome is in your control. Entrusting isn't giving up. It means you keep doing what God has called you to do, while releasing to God what only God can do. Your responsibility is faithfulness. God's responsibility is transformation.

The Holy Spirit can convict, awaken, and bring life, though His timeline is often longer than we're comfortable with. Your children have wills of their own. God hasn't called you to control them. He calls you to love them, pray for them, point them to Jesus, and trust Him. Transformation is often painful, which is why trust is hard. Where our efforts seem to fail, we turn them into more prayer.

Lead those God has entrusted to you. Trust God with what only He can do. Maybe you came in feeling you're not enough to protect your family. You're right - you can't. But God has never asked you to be enough. He asks you to trust Him. Carry the shield of faith. Stand faithfully, build faithfully, and pray faithfully. Jesus is the Savior, not you.

What action do you need to take right now? Do you need to be re-challenged to make a choice? Will you commit to live God's way, even when it's hard? Can you step back, discern who is at work, and praise God for what He's doing even if you can't see it? And if you've never placed your faith in Christ, admit you're a sinner in need of saving, believe in the Lord Jesus as your Savior, and confess your decision to someone else.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Who do you tend to feel is responsible for your family's spiritual growth - God or you? How does that affect your stress level?**
- 2. What has God already done in your life that you could share with someone in your care this week?**
- 3. Which part of God's pattern (sacrifice, honor, obey, train) is hardest for you to live out, and why?**
- 4. What is the difference between giving up and entrusting? Where do you need to practice entrusting?**
- 5. Psalm 127:1 says unless the Lord builds the house, we labor in vain. Where in your family are you working or worrying the hardest, and what would it look like to hand that to God?**