

September 23/24, 2020

Pastor Jeff Hesse



## Households of Faith – Why?

### Discipleship Stories / Opening Prayer

### Discuss types of “Households” (then and now... any differences?)

#### Read: Joshua Chapter 24

- What jumps out at you... as you
  - Reflect on God’s leadership/actions in history? The role of Joshua?
  - What’s the problem? The solution?
- What does v. 29 say about the significance of the *Household of Faith* for Joshua and his household? Then what happened to Israel?
- What about you, your household... the Church today?

#### Read Matthew 24:44-51 - Let’s look closely at a “parable”:

- Who is the “master”? What is the “household”? Who is the “faithful and wise servant”? What is the “food”? Jesus starts with the promise of the master – what is it?
- Who is the “wicked servant”? What is the problem?
- What seems to be the purpose for Jesus speaking /teaching this parable? What does it mean for you and your household?

#### Read: Acts 11:1-18

- What was God’s up to here? What’s the problem? Solution?
- Does this still go on? What’s the “this”?
- What role does “hospitality” and “spiritual conversations” play in the *Household of Faith*? How is this fostered? Why is it important?

### Wrap-up:

1. What ties do you see in these 3 sections of Scripture for you?
2. What difference does any of this make in your household? Barna / LHM resources, goals and God’s *Household of Faith* ----->

**Goals for Households**

1. Define Households
2. Grow in applying faith and following Jesus
3. Increase Spiritual Connections & Vibrancy
4. Grow as sites of teaching and learning about God
5. Open up about struggles / doubts (grow in humility)

The graphic features a bar chart with a rising line graph, set against a background of various religious symbols like a cross, a dove, and a flame.

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### Closing Prayer

**“...But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”** (Joshua 24:15b)

**“Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.”** (Matt. 24:45-46)

**... he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning.** (Acts 11:14-15)