

BUILT TO LAST

A 7 Day Devotional Series



BUILT TO LAST



A 7-Day Devotional on Building a Winning Family Culture by God's Design

Every family has a culture, whether by intentional design or by default based on the world around them or generational patterns. Culture is something God instituted since the beginning. In fact, since Eden God's desired design was for the family to thrive in unity, purpose, and faith. But biblical culture isn't something that just happens on its own. In today's world, families often find themselves busy, distracted, or disconnected from that original design.

That's why this devotional is built around one goal: helping you build a biblical family culture that lasts. It is based off of the curriculum by Legacy Stone: The Winning Family Culture: Set the Map for Generations – a 7 Session series for families to build a culture that leaves a legacy.

In this 7-day devotional, we'll look at God's design for family and explore how to cultivate rhythms, habits, and celebrations that reflect His heart. Drawing from Scripture and biblical examples like Adam and Eve, Noah, Joshua, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Timothy, you'll discover how faith-filled culture isn't something that just happens—it's built intentionally, protected diligently, and celebrated joyfully.

Over the next seven days, you'll learn how to:

1. Assess and align your family culture so that it reflects God's design.
2. Define the habits, and rhythms that shape culture intentionally rather than by default.
3. Remember and retell your family's story of God's faithfulness.
4. Build rhythms that last through obedience and consistency.
5. Celebrate God's goodness as a family rhythm to create a culture of joy and gratitude.
6. Guard against threats that erode family culture.
7. Make culture stick through the passing on of faith and values to the next generation.

Each day includes a devotional thought, reflection questions, and a prayer prompt to help you pause, process, and apply what you're learning.

Our prayer is that through this journey, you'll begin to see your home as one of the greatest ministries God has entrusted to you. May your home become a place where faith abounds, celebrations hold values, and legacy outlasts moods and seasons.



Laureen Tanner
LEGACY STONE

GOD'S DESIGN FOR FAMILY

"God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it...'" Genesis 1:28 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

From the very beginning, God's design for family was intentional—fruitful, multiplying, and creative. Family is not an accident of history; it's the first institution He established. As a Triune God, how beautiful it is that He would create man not only in His image, but in accordance with the very way He exists – in love and relationship? He set and instituted family culture by example.

If we look back at Adam and Eve, we find the first couple. They were created to steward Eden and to live out purpose, unity, and legacy. They were designed to know and be known by God and as a result, carry forth His plan of heavenly focused relationship. Even after sin entered and disrupted that design, His desire for families to multiply life remained.

He saw through the fracture and divide of sin knowing that from generation to generation, His plans for humanity to walk out relationship with Him and with each other would prevail. His purpose for family continues. His mission to restore was always the goal. His heart for a holy, Christ-centered, kingdom-focused culture remains. Where sin caused brokenness to become the default, God invites us into intentional culture by His design.

REFLECT

- How do you see God's design reflected in your family today?
- Where do you think your family has been living in accordance to God's design and where can you see room to grow?
- What would it look like to recenter your family around God's purpose this week?

PRAYER PROMPT

"Lord, thank You for designing family as a reflection of Your love, unity, and creativity. Help us align with Your design and live out the purpose You've given us. Amen."

THE POWER OF CULTURE

“These commandments... are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children...”
Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

Family culture is created by design or by default. Oftentimes, worldly culture can begin to influence the culture we are aiming to build in our home and can play a role in shaping our values. If we look at scripture we can find encouragement in this area through the life of Noah (Genesis ch. 5-10). In the midst of widespread wickedness, corruption, violence, the loss of reverence of God, and the blatant disregard for His design, Noah remained faithful. Out of an entire generation, Noah is singled out as “a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God” (Genesis 6:9 NIV).

His obedience and consistency established a personal culture of faith even when society mocked him and ignored God’s calling toward repentance. What we see through Noah is an example of counter-culture obedience that resulted in preserving his family, protected creation, and laid a fresh foundation for humanity. It birthed future generations. It resulted in a covenant and a promise God still holds to today to never destroy the earth by flood again. Though his children didn’t always follow his example, his righteousness was what caught God’s attention.

As we read Noah’s story, we see how God’s ways were abandoned for new cultural norms that promoted complete rebellion and praised self-indulgence. The result of a culture that drifts from God is multiplied corruption and eventually destruction. But, what we also discover, and what Noah’s personal obedience demonstrates, is that even in a corrupt generation, that the power of a Christ-centered culture can begin with a single heart devoted to God. The steadfastness of one devoted heart can ripple out far beyond what we can see.

REFLECT

- Where do you feel pressure to “go with the flow” of culture rather than stand out in faith?
- Are there weeds (negative habits) you’ve allowed to grow that you need to address?
- What is one area where your obedience to God today might preserve or strengthen faith for future generations?

PRAYER PROMPT

“Father, show us where our family culture is being shaped by default. Teach us to create rhythms that reflect faith, love, and obedience to You. Help us to hold to your original design in word, action, and deed so that our family legacy represents you and brings your glory. Amen”

REMEMBERING OUR STORY

“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord...”
Psalm 78:4 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

Healthy family culture grows when we remember and retell God's faithfulness in our stories. From God's Word, we learn that recounting plays a vital role in forward movement—we must look back in order to build the future. True culture building starts in the past.

In Ezra's life, we see this clearly. His mission was rooted in his family genealogy, strengthened by his present devotion, and lived out through 17 generations. “For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the Lord, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel” (Ezra 7:10, NIV). Because of his steadfastness as a priest and teacher, Ezra saw family and family culture as a collective, not an individual, success. That deep-rooted culture wouldn't have been possible had Ezra not embraced his family's story through the generations before him (Ezra 7:1–6, NIV).

Modern culture enforces an individualistic view, but God's design has always been multi-generational. He calls us to recount and remember regularly, sharing His faithfulness to strengthen both our relationship with Him and with one another. Sin's stain often leaves broken stories and divisions where God intended unity, but even those moments, when surrendered to Him, can be rewritten into healing, change, and legacy.

As Ezra's story shows us, when faith is passed down, the retelling of God's goodness doesn't just preserve the past, it multiplies His purposes into the future.

REFLECT

- What are the most important stories or events from your family's history that need to be remembered?
- When you look back at your own family line, what moments of God's faithfulness stand out most clearly? How can you retell those to the next generation?
- Are there parts of your family's history that you've avoided or left untold? What might change if you invited God into those stories?

PRAYER PROMPT

“Lord, thank You for the story You've written across generations. Thank you that you designed family with intentionality and great purpose. Give us courage to honor the good, redeem the broken, and pass on a testimony of Your faithfulness. Amen.”

BUILDING RHYTHMS THAT LAST

“As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”
Joshua 24:15 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

Culture is sustained by the consistent rhythms – the habits we practice daily, weekly, and seasonally, and that reflect what we value. But none of this just happens. Rhythms that last require intentionality, consistency, and commitment. Biblical family culture that stands for generations calls for a bold stance and the willingness to remain committed through opposition, worldly pressure, and competing societal norms. It will last by clearly defining what we value and knowing our family's long-term vision and mission.

Joshua was a culture creator and leader chosen by God to take the next generation of Israelites into the promised land. Because he went against the crowd (Numbers 14, Joshua 24), he was set apart by God and carried the faith that allowed him to take hold of what God had purposed. With very clear directions from the Lord on how to succeed in the new land (Joshua 1:8), Joshua set the trajectory for those under his leadership.

His boldness caused others to follow and set the tone for his family and community and created a culture of devotion. His model of covenant commitment was firmly rooted in rhythms of obedience, dedication to scripture, meditation of God's word day and night, and intentional retelling of God's faithfulness just as God commanded him. Joshua staked his life on God's faithfulness and lived accordingly through commitment to the practices that outlasted moods and seasons.

His declaration “...we will serve the Lord,” was a planting of seeds for future generations. Our commitment to live out biblical culture with Christ at the center will give us a long view of legacy. Like Joshua, continual dedication to the rhythms of worship and obedience create a foundation on which future generations can stand.

REFLECT

- How might bold statements of faith (like Joshua's “we will serve the Lord”) become part of your family's language or affirmations?
- How do your family's current habits reflect (or not reflect) your values?
- What are ways you can shape family culture through daily consistency in your own habits—showing, not just telling?

PRAYER PROMPT

“Lord, help us build rhythms that align with Your Word and keep You at the center of our home. Help us to see with eyes of faith always so that we live out a culture that forever speaks to your faithfulness and honors you. Amen.”

CELEBRATING IS GOD'S IDEA

“...celebrate before the Lord your God for seven days.”
– Leviticus 23:40 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

God was the very first life of the party. From the earliest moments in Scripture, we find Him at the center of celebration. All of heaven lives in continual worship—songs of praise, reverent awe, unending joy. God is the creator of a good time. He wove celebration into the human heart and instituted it to develop belonging, faith, and unity.

Leviticus 23:40 anchors this truth. God commanded His people to keep festivals—Passover, Feast of Weeks, Feast of Tabernacles—not as an afterthought, but as a central rhythm of worship and remembrance. Celebration is God's gift to cement memory, enforce identity, and unite generations around what matters most. From the feasts of Israel to the gatherings of the early church, celebration was never man's idea but God's—meant to tether His people to His goodness.

In Acts 2:42–47 believers “broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God.” These regular rhythms of meeting and rejoicing weren't just fellowship; they were a witness to God's kingdom culture and the oneness it brings. Their joy drew others to Christ.

When we, as families, build regular celebrations—birthdays, milestones, annual faith traditions—we join this ancient pattern of remembrance and joy. Our homes become intentional places of joy that mirror God's heart and invite others to experience His goodness.

REFLECT

- Which family traditions or celebrations help you remember God's faithfulness?
- What is one new celebration you could start to point your family back to God's goodness?
- How does regularly celebrating draw your family closer together?

PRAYER PROMPT

“Father, thank You for the gift of celebration. Help us find joy in You and build traditions that anchor our family in gratitude. Let our intentional celebration point others to You, as we live lives rooted in the joy of your goodness. Amen.”

GUARDING THE WALLS OF YOUR FAMILY CULTURE

“... ‘Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.’”
– Nehemiah 4:14 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Building a thriving family culture, or rebuilding it when it has been broken, requires both intentionality and vigilance. Threats like distraction, faith drift, entitlement, and busyness can slowly erode the values and rhythms you've established if you're not watchful. It takes being both the builder and the watchman of your family culture.

A beautiful example of this is Nehemiah. Called to rebuild Jerusalem's walls after years of ruin, he sought the Lord's favor through prayer and fasting. Though he faced opposition, ridicule, and danger, he stayed focused, refusing to let threats or distractions derail his God-given mission. Relying on God, Nehemiah safeguarded the people and kept the work moving. He set families to repair the wall nearest their homes—a visual reminder of what they were protecting (Nehemiah 3). When enemies threatened, he armed workers with tools in one hand and weapons in the other (Nehemiah 4:17), offering both safety and courage.

Nehemiah's leadership shows that guarding what God has entrusted to us is both spiritual and practical, requiring a clear vision of what we are protecting and building. As he reminded the people to “remember the Lord” and to “fight for your families” (Nehemiah 4:14), God calls us to do the same.

While family culture may not be built of physical stones, your values, habits, and faith are the building blocks of a lasting legacy. They must be reinforced again and again through rhythms like regular prayer, consistent family meetings, boundaries around screens or schedules, and a commitment to keep God's Word central. Guard these with courage and determination to create a safe place where faith can flourish and generations can thrive.

REFLECT

- What current “threats” could weaken the culture you want to build in your home?
- How can you, like Nehemiah, involve your family in guarding these areas together?
- What habits or boundaries could you put in place this week to strengthen your family’s spiritual “walls”?

PRAYER PROMPT

“Lord, help us to be watchful over the family culture You've called us to build. Show us the areas that need guarding and give us courage to protect them. Strengthen our rhythms of prayer, worship, and connection so that our home reflects Your faithfulness for generations to come. Amen.”

LEGACY THAT LIVES ON

"I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."

– 2 Timothy 1:5 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Legacy isn't a sudden achievement—it's a culmination of daily dedication to the rhythms, values, and habits that have been nurtured and passed down. The type of legacy your family leaves will depend on the answer to this: what story will the next generation tell? Every generation has a role to play in the influence their family can have far beyond their lifetime.

As we see in the life of Timothy, his sincere faith was cultivated and nurtured through the lives of his mother, Eunice, and grandmother, Lois. Though they are only referred to in a single verse in scripture, their quiet and steadfast devotion to Christ was noteworthy by Paul. (2 Timothy 1:5) Through their teachings of scripture from his infancy (2 Timothy 3:14-15) and the modeling of prayer, and obedience, Timothy received an inheritance of faith and the foundation for his future ministry.

Lois and Eunice teach us that culture sticks when faith is lived and taught consistently through rhythms of prayer, reading scripture, and connected conversation with the next generation. It's these habits that embed God's word into the heart and weave faith into a lifestyle worth remembering and modeling. Lasting culture is sustained through both the example of elders and the commitment of the next generation. It's the ordinary faithfulness, not the flashy one time events, that leave a lasting impression and creates an extraordinary legacy.

REFLECT

- What do you hope your children or spiritual children will say about your faith?
- What's one intentional practice you can start now to pass on your values?
- Who helped cultivate faith in you the way Lois and Eunice did for Timothy? How can you thank or honor them?

PRAYER PROMPT

"Lord, let our legacy be one of faith, obedience, and unified vision. Strengthen us to live consistent with Your Word, to love deeply, and to pass on a Christ-centered culture that lasts. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear the story You want to tell through our family and the boldness to walk it out. Amen."

NEXT STEPS TO GROWTH

Now that you have made it through this little devotional series, keep moving forward with application. A few potential steps you can take:

- Go back and identify the lesson that stood out to you most. What is one step you can take based on that?
- Set a specific prayer regarding culture that you will pray over your family each day.
- Seek godly counsel if needed to help you begin to heal and grow these areas of your family.

Culture will look different through your seasons of life, but it forms the foundation for each of those seasons, so don't neglect it. If you want family that lasts, culture is an essential to start building.

A PERSONAL WORD...

Growing up, family culture was a mixed bag of ideas and habits forged from "have to's". As a child raised by divorced, young parents, most of our "traditions" were based around parenting agreements and split holidays between two homes where grandparents played a vital role in my sister's and my upbringing and our faith. Culture to us, was navigating two worlds, molding to different environments and ways of living like chameleons. As an adult, it's now trying to find a way to build something that brings the best of both together in a way that it can be passed on with purpose and consistency... for generations to come.

The lessons laid out in this devotional help inspire new ways of thinking and ways forward for families no matter where they are or what type of current situation they find themselves in. They remind us that God's purpose since the beginning was to set a multi-generational legacy in motion through family with Christ at the center of all they did. They also show us that one person can reset the trajectory for generations and build something that lasts despite where they have come from or what worldly culture teaches. That sparks deep hope that no matter how fragmented the "culture" we have now is, God's intention still remains and is possible.

I pray you find hope, inspiration, and joy in forging the culture of your home so it is as God intended – built to last.



Laureen Tanner
LEGACY STONE

WANT MORE RESOURCES?

Visit legacystone.com/resources and look for our section on Culture to find practical tools and insights to help you in this process.