

CHOICES

My Life. I'm In Control, Part 4
Joshua 24:15 (NIV)
CrossWord Christian Church
Karen J. Sykes, Associate Pastor
October 4, 2026

But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.

. . . I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore, choose life that you and your offspring may live... Deuteronomy 30:19 (ESV)

The CHOICES We Must Make

C – Confronting the alternatives. “*whom you will serve,...*”

For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Psalm 96:5 (ESV)

Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the LORD your God and Him only shall you serve.” Matthew 4:10 (ESV)

H – Home is the starting point. “*as for me and my household...*”

You must teach them to your children and talk about them when you are at home or out for a walk; at bedtime and the first thing in the morning. Deuteronomy 6:7 (TLB)

O – Our personal responsibility. “*we will serve the Lord*”

⁸ *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)*

I – Immediate decision required. “*choose you this day*”.

But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over; dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing. . .” Romans 13:11-12 (MSG)

C – Counting the cost. “*But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you*”

⁷ *I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. ^{8a} Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my LORD... ⁹ and become one with Him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather I become righteous through faith in Christ.” Philippians 3:7-9 (NLT)*

E – Exclusive devotion.

No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Matthew 6:24 (NIV)

S – Surrendering to serve. "serve the LORD ".

²³ *Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the LORD and not for people,* ²⁴ *knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the LORD Christ. Colossians 3:23-24 (CSB)*