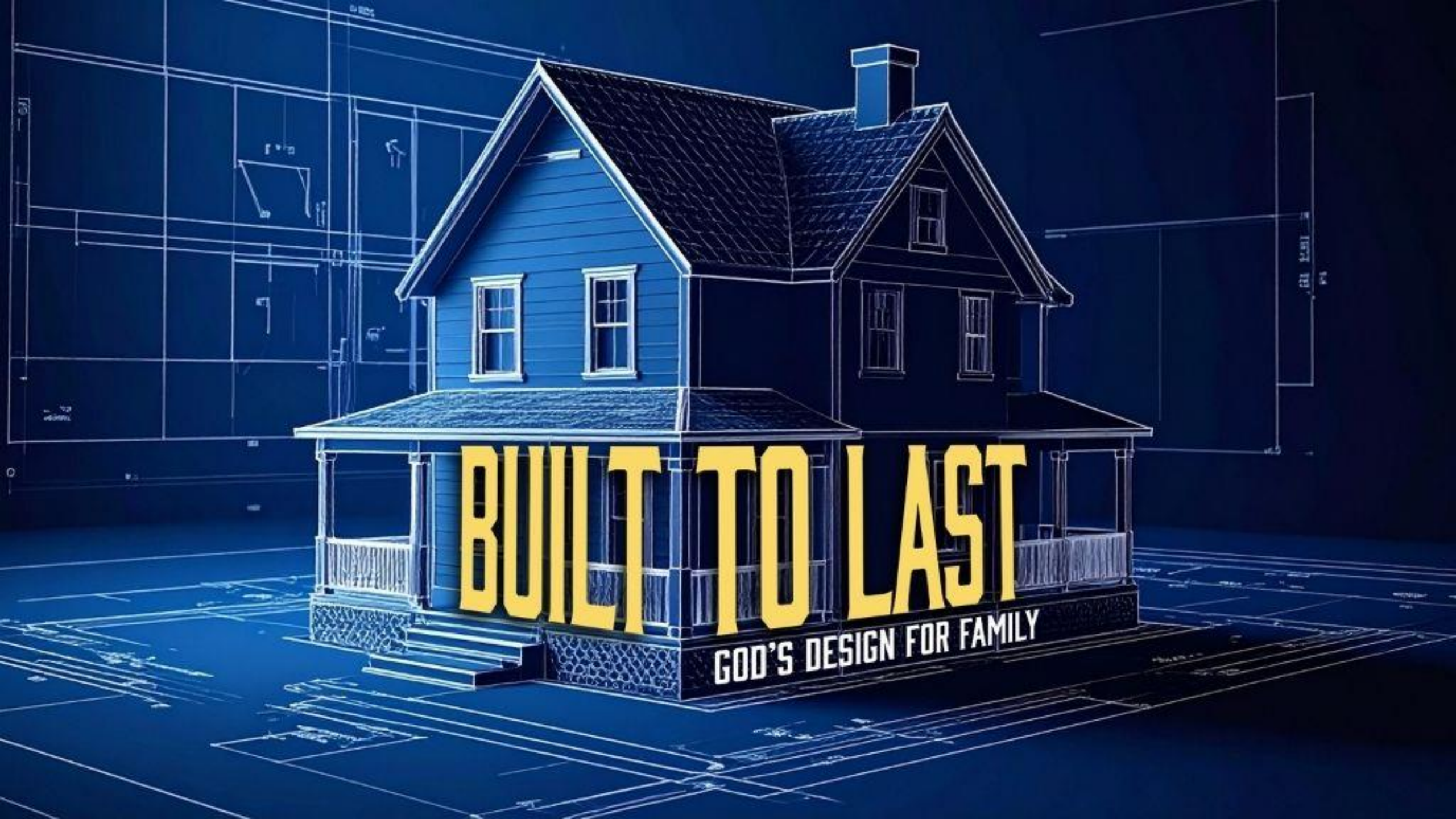




BUILT TO LAST

GOD'S DESIGN FOR FAMILY



Last week...

**What does heavenly
blessing look like?**

BUILT TO LAST

“The Lord bless you, and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace.” Numbers 6:24-26

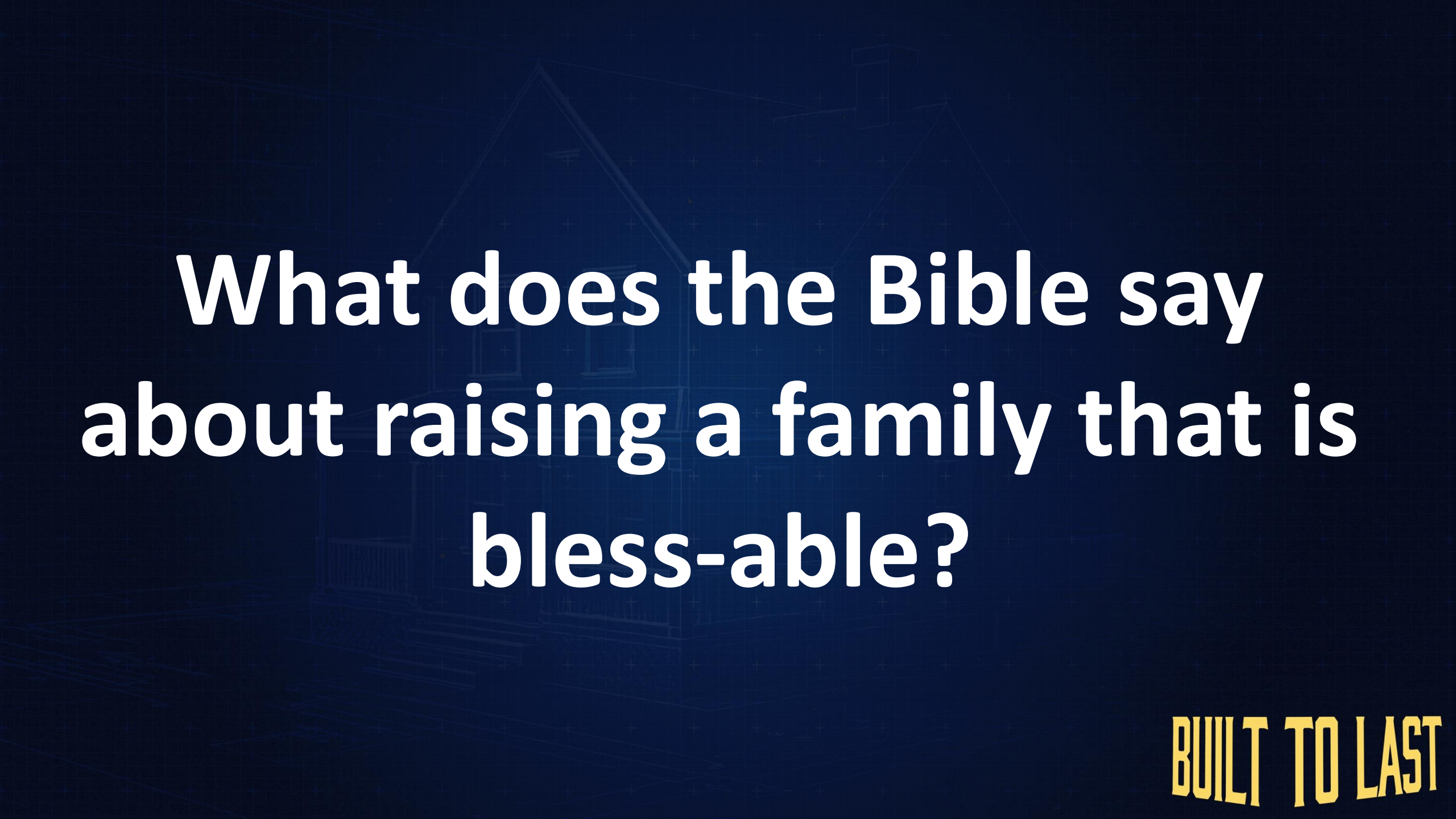
BUILT TO LAST

יברכך יהוה וישמרך
יאר יהוה פניו אליך ויחנך
ישא יהוה פניו אליך וישם לך שלום

Yevarechecha Adonai veyishmerecha.
Yaer Adonai panav elecha vichunecha.
Yissa Adonai panav elecha, veyasem lecha shalom.

Numbers 6:24-26

BUILT TO LAST



**What does the Bible say
about raising a family that is
bless-able?**

BUILT TO LAST



Deuteronomy 6

BUILT TO LAST

The Hebrew people, led by Moses, left slavery in Egypt and began the journey toward the Promised Land of Israel.

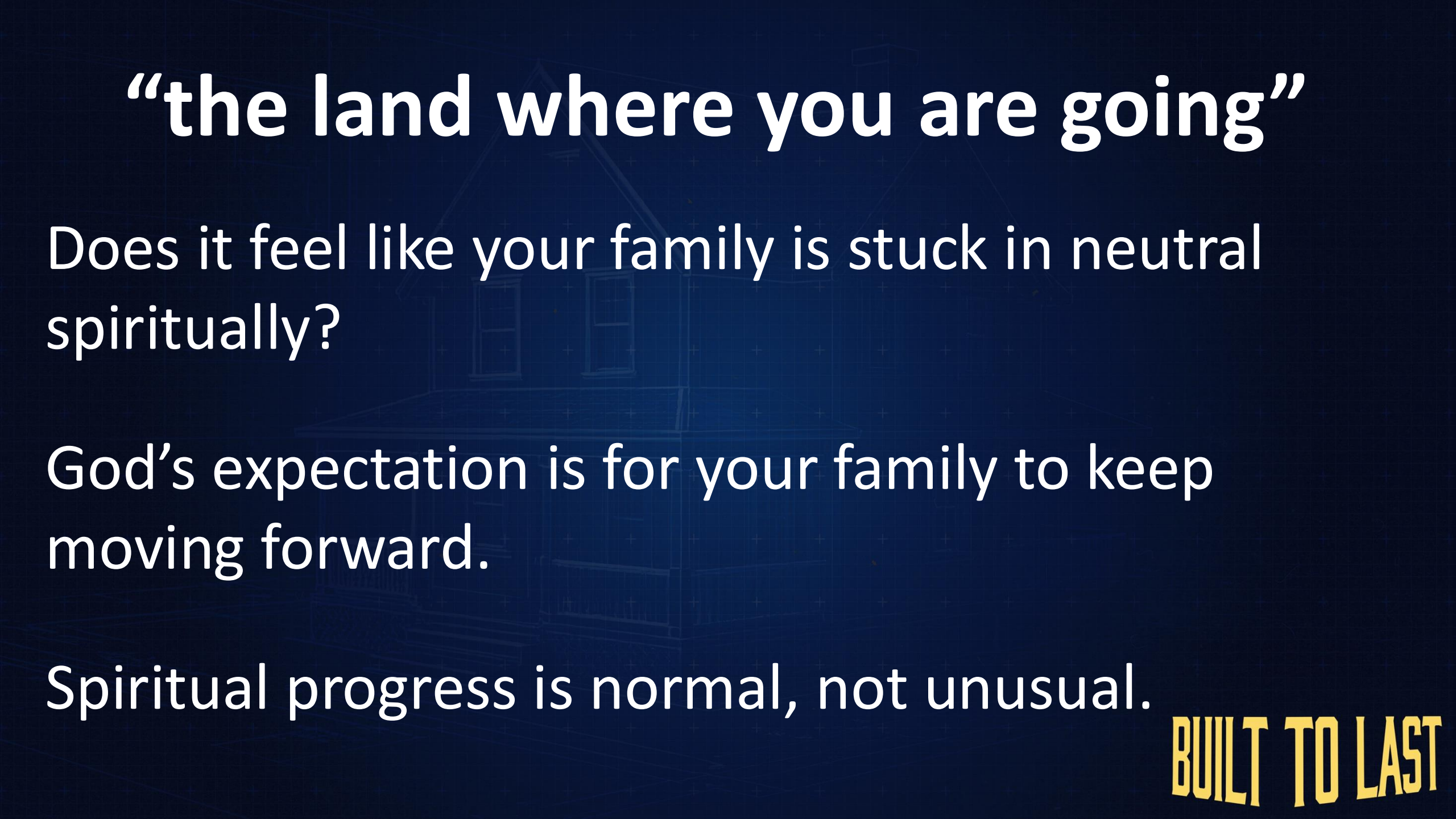
Before they entered, Moses reminded them of their covenant with God and His calling.



“Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the judgments which the Lord your God has commanded me to teach you, that you might do them in the land where you are going over to possess it, so that you and your son and your grandson might fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.”

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

BUILT TO LAST



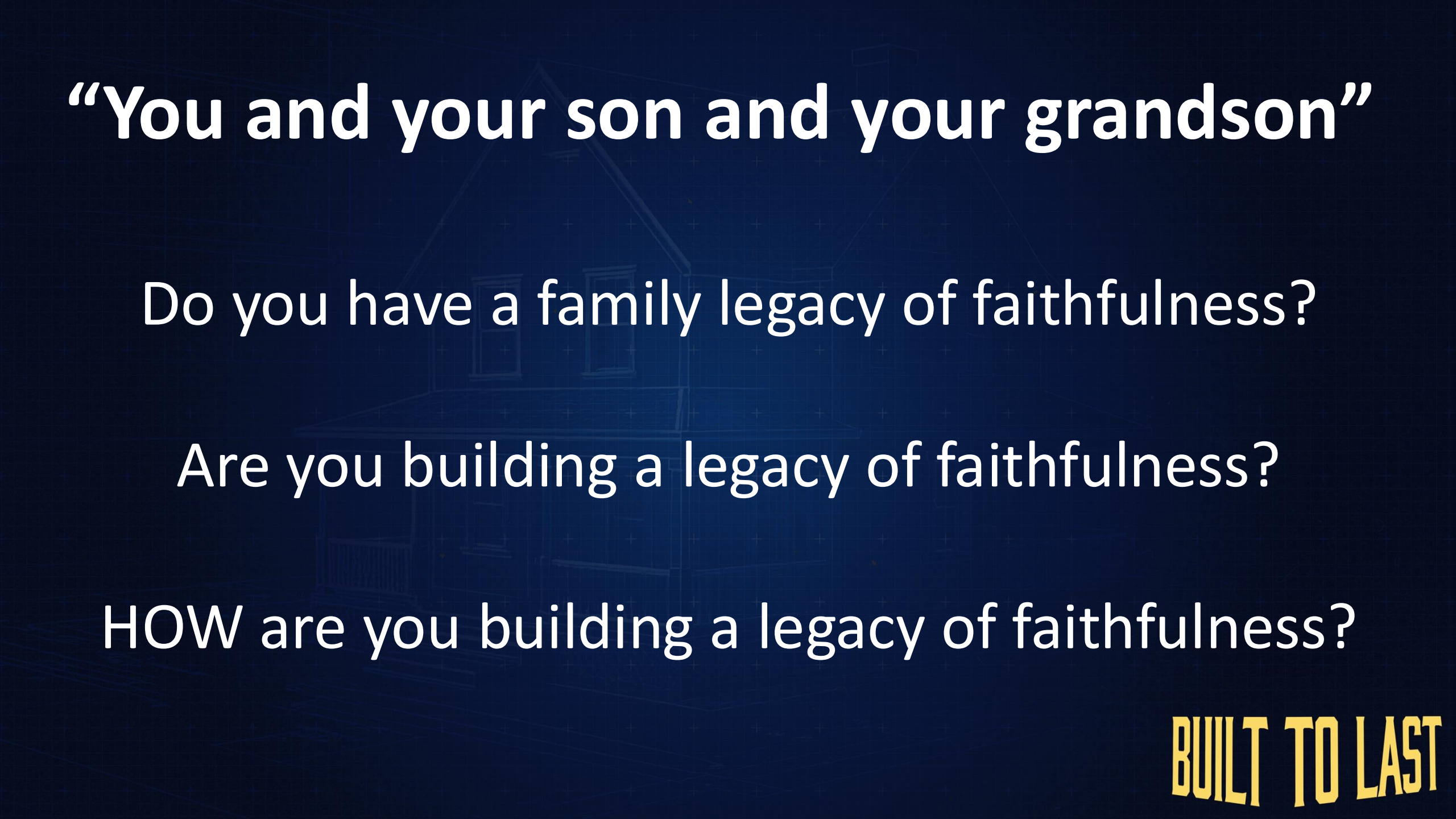
“the land where you are going”

Does it feel like your family is stuck in neutral spiritually?

God's expectation is for your family to keep moving forward.

Spiritual progress is normal, not unusual.

BUILT TO LAST



“You and your son and your grandson”

Do you have a family legacy of faithfulness?

Are you building a legacy of faithfulness?

HOW are you building a legacy of faithfulness?

BUILT TO LAST

“O Israel, you should listen [שמע] and be careful to do it, that it may be well with you and that you may multiply greatly, just as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.” Deuteronomy 6:3

BUILT TO LAST

“that it may be well with you”

Phrase occurs 8 times in Deuteronomy

Is that what your family wants?

Is that what your family needs?

How?

“listen and be careful to do it”

BUILT TO LAST

“**Hear**, O Israel! The Lord is our God,
the Lord is one!”

Deuteronomy 6:4

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.

Sh'ma Yisra-eil, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad.

BUILT TO LAST

- The LORD our God, the LORD is one: This is the essential truth about God. He is a person and not a vague pantheistic force. Being one, He cannot be represented by contradictory images.
- Christians must come to a renewed understanding of the unity of God. They must appreciate the fact that the LORD is one, not three, as 1 Corinthians 8:6 says: yet for us there is one God. Christians worship one God, existing in three Persons, not three separate gods.
- Yet, the statement the LORD is one certainly does not contradict the truth of the Trinity. In fact, it establishes that truth. The Hebrew word used here for one is *echad*, which speaks most literally of a compound unity, rather than the Hebrew word *yacheed*, which speaks of an absolute unity or singularity (Genesis 22:2, Psalm 25:16).
- Largely, *echad* does not have the exclusive idea of an absolute singularity. The concept of the Trinity – that there is one God in three Persons – works well with the term *echad*.

Jesus specifically mentioned the Shema (Matthew 22:37), and its core truth was also in Paul's mind (Romans 3:30, 1 Corinthians 8:6, Ephesians 4:6, 1 Timothy 2:5).

James challenged believers (nearly all from a Jewish background) that their confession that God was one was not enough (James 2:19).

The command: “Shema Y’Israel” “Hear, O Israel”

Etymologically the term “shema” invokes not only hearing, but also learning, following, even obeying.

Where it involves listening to the spoken word, this term implies an engagement with the mind, an attentive listening, even a sense of “heed by acting” or “putting to practice.” When God calls Israel to hear, He expects more than just a listening. He expects action.

“Shema” beckons us to not only hear the words of God, but to take them into the very center of our being and doing. In other words, God expects a listening with a view toward doing.

There is no biblical Hebrew word for “obey.” English word translated “obey” is the Hebrew word “shema.”

Today, before we obey, we usually go through a 3-part process...

- 1) We hear what God says
- 2) We evaluate the command based on our understanding
- 3) We make a choice to obey based on our evaluation

It's a Greek mindset to understand first then obey. But God doesn't give us instructions in order that we might understand Him! He gives His instructions to us that we might live life well (see Proverbs 10:17).

There are 613 commandments in the Old Testament and 1050 commandments in the New Testament. With so many “commandments” you would naturally assume that obedience is what God is requiring. But He’s not looking for obedience from us the way we understand obedience. Webster’s Dictionary defines obey as to do what someone tells you to do or what a rule, law, etc., says you must do. Some synonyms are to submit, to keep, to comply, to be governed by, bow to, do one’s bidding, do what is expected, do as told, to take orders. Lots of English synonyms for a word that’s not even in the Hebrew language!

What does God require from us? He’s looking for *shema levot*...for hearing hearts. A hearing heart is intent on or committed to doing whatever God commands... whatever He asks from us. Most importantly a hearing heart is rooted in love (Deuteronomy 11:1; John 14:15; 1 John 5:3).

- <https://itisfinished.blog/2016/03/07/no-hebrew-word-for-obey/>

BUILT TO LAST

The opening line “Listen, O Israel” does not simply mean to let the sound waves enter your ears. The word “listen” or “hear” means allow the words to sink in, provide understanding, and generate a response. In Hebrew, “hearing” and “doing” are basically the same thing, but what is Israel to do in response to hearing that the Lord alone is their God? “Love the Lord your God.”

Love isn't simply the warm, fuzzy, emotional energy we feel when we like someone. In the Bible, love is action. You love someone when you act in loyalty and faithfulness. For Israel, to love meant faithful obedience to the terms of their covenant relationship. Those terms are the laws and commands that are found in the Book of Deuteronomy.

Obedience to these laws was never about legalism or trying to earn God's favor. Obedience in the Old Testament is about love and listening. If an Israelite loves God, it will make it easier to listen and absorb His teachings and guidance. This is why the words “listen” and “love” are so tightly connected and repeated through these opening speeches of Deuteronomy. [-https://thebibleproject.com/blog/what-is-the-shema/](https://thebibleproject.com/blog/what-is-the-shema/)

BUILT TO LAST

teenagers

- I don't want you to "hear" me
- I want you to "Shema" me

BUILT TO LAST



Shema in other Bible Verses

About Us

“Now then, if you will indeed **obey** My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine” Exodus 19:5

“They have ears, but they cannot **hear**” Psalm 115:6

“The **hearing** ear and the seeing eye, the Lord has made both of them.” Proverbs 20:12

About God

“**Hear**, O Lord, when I cry with my voice, and be gracious to me and answer me.” Psalm 27:7

BUILT TO LAST

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.

Sh'ma Yisra-eil, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad.

Hear, O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One!

בָּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Baruch sheim k'vod malchuto l'olam va-ed.

Blessed is God's glorious majesty forever and ever.

The phrase above is part of the prayer but is not a quote from scripture

BUILT TO LAST

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your **heart** [לֵב *lebab*] and with all your **soul** [נֶפֶשׁ *nefesh*] and with all your **might** [מֵאֹד *maod*]. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart.” Deuteronomy 6:5-6

- We love, because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

BUILT TO LAST

“You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.”

Deuteronomy 6:7

- Where do you teach? At home and away from home
- When do you teach? At night and in the morning

BUILT TO LAST

Godly Parenting Requires TIME

Tenderness

Initiative

Moral standards

Expectations

BUILT TO LAST

Q: Whose job is it?

A: Our church's Kids and Student Ministries exist to partner with families to make disciples of Jesus.

Discipleship begins at home.

BUILT TO LAST



“You shall bind them as a sign on
your hand and they shall be as
frontals on your forehead.”
Deuteronomy 6:8



Tefillin

BUILT TO LAST



“You shall write
them on the
doorposts of
your house and
on your gates.”
Deuteronomy 6:9

Mezuzah on the front entrance of our church

BUILT TO LAST

Blessing Follows Obedience

“Then it shall come about when the Lord your God brings you into the land which He swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you, great and splendid cities which you did not build, and houses full of all good things which you did not fill, and hewn cisterns which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant, and you eat and are satisfied, then watch yourself, that you do not forget the Lord who brought you from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.” Deuteronomy 6:10-12

BUILT TO LAST

God Provides Deliverance

“then watch yourself, that you do not forget the Lord who brought you from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.” Deuteronomy 6:12

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father Galatians 1:3-4

BUILT TO LAST

He is a Jealous God

“You shall fear [awe-filled respect] only the Lord your God; and you shall worship Him and swear by His name. You shall not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who surround you, for the Lord your God in the midst of you is a jealous God; otherwise the anger of the Lord your God will be kindled against you, and He will wipe you off the face of the earth.”

Deuteronomy 6:13-15

BUILT TO LAST

Ignore the crowds

“You shall not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who surround you” Deuteronomy 6:14

Your family cannot honor God if you care more about what people think than what God thinks.

Your family cannot honor God if you first (or only) consult with neighbors and friends about moral values and spiritual decisions.

BUILT TO LAST

“You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested Him at Massah. You should diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and His testimonies and His statutes which He has commanded you. You shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may be well with you and that you may go in and possess the good land which the Lord swore to give your fathers, by driving out all your enemies from before you, as the Lord has spoken.”

Deuteronomy 6:16-19

*In Exodus 17, the people doubted God’s ability or willingness to provide water in the desert; Massah means “to test.”

BUILT TO LAST

“We were slaves”

“When your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What do the testimonies and the statutes and the judgments mean which the Lord our God commanded you?’ then you shall say to your son, ‘We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, and the Lord brought us from Egypt with a mighty hand.’ ”

Deuteronomy 6:20-21

BUILT TO LAST

“He brought us out from there”

“ ‘Moreover, the Lord showed great and distressing signs and wonders before our eyes against Egypt, Pharaoh and all his household; He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land which He had sworn to our fathers.’ So the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God for our good always and for our survival, as it is today. It will be righteousness for us if we are careful to observe all this commandment before the Lord our God, just as He commanded us.” Deuteronomy 6:22-25

BUILT TO LAST

“He brought us out from there”

Do you have a testimony of God’s past faithfulness?

If so, are you sharing it with your children?

HOW are you sharing it with your children?

BUILT TO LAST

Action Verbs in Leading a Godly Family

- Fear the Lord your God
- Keep all His statutes
- Listen
- Be careful to do it
- Love the Lord your God
- Teach them diligently
- Do not forget the Lord
- Fear only the Lord your God
- Worship Him
- Swear by His name
- Do not follow other gods
- Do not put the Lord your God to the test
- Diligently keep the commandments of the Lord
- Do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord
- Observe all these statutes
- Fear the Lord our God
- Observe all this commandment

BUILT TO LAST

What is your family's foundation?

The solid rock spiritual foundation needed by all of our homes consists of the commandments, statutes, and judgments of God... the Bible which points to the Savior.

Do you know Jesus as Savior?

Are you introducing your children to Jesus?

Is the Bible part of your family life?

What will you teach them today?

BUILT TO LAST