

Day 34

Preparing the Shepherd's Family

Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:14–15

Key Verse

"As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Joshua 24:15

Today's Devotional

When God calls a pastor, He also calls a family.

Behind every faithful shepherd stands a wife who shares both the joys and challenges of ministry. If children are part of the family, they too experience unique blessings and unique sacrifices.

Pastoral families often relocate.

Build new friendships.

Leave familiar ministries.

Adjust to new communities.

Learn to trust God's leading in fresh ways.

Long before we know their names, we can faithfully pray for them.

Perhaps today the family God intends to bring to Riva Trace Baptist Church is serving faithfully in another congregation.

Perhaps they are wrestling with decisions they do not yet understand.

Perhaps they have no idea that God is preparing them for ministry here.

Our prayers matter.

Pray for their marriage.

Pray for their children.

Pray for protection from discouragement.

Pray that they would experience peace as God leads them.

Pray that their current ministry would continue bearing fruit until the Lord clearly directs their next step.

One day, if it is God's will, we may look back and realize that while we were praying here in Annapolis, God was answering those prayers somewhere else.

What a beautiful reminder that the Lord is always working in places we cannot yet see.

Think About It

1. Have I been praying specifically for the future pastor's family?
 2. How can our church intentionally encourage pastoral families?
 3. Am I praying only for outcomes, or also for the people involved?
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Today's Prayer

Father,

Today we pray for the family You are preparing.

Bless their marriage.

Protect their children.

Strengthen their faith.

Give them peace.

Guide every decision they make.

Prepare them for the ministry You have planned, and prepare us to love and encourage them well.

Amen.

Today's Fast

Fast from unnecessary worry.

Instead, spend that time praying specifically for the future Associate Pastor's wife and children.

Prayer Focus

Pray for the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of the family God is preparing for Riva Trace Baptist Church.