

# MY HOUSE

## ISAIAH 56:3-8

Do not let the son of the foreigner who has joined himself to the Lord speak, saying, “The Lord has utterly separated me from His people”; nor let the eunuch say, “Here I am, a dry tree.” For thus says the Lord: “To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, and choose what pleases Me, and hold fast My covenant, even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.

“Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants - everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant - even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make

them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, “Yet I will gather to him others besides those who are gathered to him.”

When I googled the phrase, “[Taking Photos Of Your House](#),” my search produced 668,000,000 results - *668 million!* Apparently, there’s quite a bit of interest these days in taking quality photographs of your own house!

Here’s a few examples of what my search turned up...

“[How To Photograph Your House - Tips from The Experts](#)” I didn’t know this subject had any experts.

**“Take Great Home Photos The Easy Way”** *As if there’s a really difficult way to photograph a house? It’s not like the house is going to move, or blink, or refuse to smile...*

Here’s one, **“Tricks For Taking Good Photos Of Your Home.”** *Why do you have to be tricky to photo a home?*

And my favorite, **“Capture The Magic.”** You take a picture of your house, and the company photoshops into your photo Santa, the Easter Bunny, or the Tooth Fairy.

I imagine, with the changes in Real Estate, and the posting of homes for sale on the internet, if your house is going to sale quickly these days you need nice photos.

A couple of websites suggested a home seller should hire a professional photographer to take pictures of their house. It’s a good investment, if you want a speedy sale.

Well, in Isaiah 56 God takes a picture of His house!

He's not selling it... *or perhaps He is... I suppose He is selling it to us...* He's promising the outcast and the disenfranchised *a place, even a name*, in His house.

And the Prophet snaps a beautiful photo. *An expert* couldn't have done a better job *capturing the magic!*

The picture conveyed in Isaiah 56 - *of God's house* - is an intriguing one. It encourages the worshipper. God has a house, and it's surprising all that we find there...

We've been studying **portraits of Jesus in the prophecy of Isaiah**. But this AM is different. Rather than a picture of the Lord, our picture today is of *His house*.

Yet ask an interior designer and they'll tell you that a person's house is a reflection of their personality, and likes, and lifestyle. The colors they choose, and the materials they use - their floor design and their utilization of space - the furniture they pick out and how its arranged... all reflects the priorities of the homeowner.

And nowhere is this truer than in God's house...

Study Exodus, and you'll find that when God first built His house - *the Tabernacle* - He gave Moses a set of blueprints. Exact specifications for the size, layout, construction, materials, and furniture in His house.

When Solomon built the Temple, *a permanent house for God*, the same pattern was followed. 1 Kings 6 tells us that the Temple was like the Tabernacle on steroids.

*Stones replaced skins. Stability replaced mobility. Size replaced speed.* One lamp and one laver were replaced by ten. A tabernacle designed for wilderness wandering was replaced with a temple that would last indefinitely.

**Which means God wasn't afraid to remodel.** The Tabernacle was perfect for a nation of nomads, but once Israel settled in the land, a more permanent Temple was appropriate. God wasn't afraid of change! Hey, God is never afraid of change in His house! **If the carpet wears out, He might just replace it with polished concrete!**

And this wasn't just the case with the Tabernacle and the Temple, but God remodeled a third time. When His people had outlived **skins** and **stones**, God replaced them with **spirit**. He built a spiritual house, the Church.

Today, God's house is a spiritual dwelling. A building not made with *limestones*, but with *living stones*! You and I are the blocks and beams - the skins and linens.

The Church, *this Church* - *not the building we're sitting in, but our bonded hearts and our interaction with each other* - is every bit the house of God as the Tabernacle and the Temple. Together, we are a spiritual house.

And the vibe should be the same in all three of God's houses - *Tabernacle, Temple, or Church*. What Isaiah says of the Temple should also be true of the Church.

Check out Isaiah's photo, and you'll see how God's house should look... Three traits should characterize His house... **inclusion**, and **conviction**, and **devotion**.

Here's a passage that was important to Jesus. He even quoted it at a crucial moment in His ministry.

Isaiah gives us a photo - *do we recognize it as Calvary Chapel? If not; then what changes need to be made?*

The first characteristic of God's house is the **inclusion** you find. Isaiah addresses two types of people from his time who were on the outside looking in. The *“son of the foreigner”* and the *“eunuch”* were both disenfranchised from *Jewish society* and from the *Temple worship*.

Leviticus 21 and Deuteronomy 23 barred the eunuch from God's house. Deuteronomy 23:1 states, *“He who is emasculated by crushing or mutilation shall not enter the assembly of the Lord.”* Judaism considered it a duty to procreate - *to be fruitful and*



*multiply.* Obviously, a eunuch lacked the needed equipment to do the job.

*Did you hear about the actor who was a eunuch? He turned down a role in a film because it didn't pay enough money. He said, "I wasn't happy with the **cast rate.**"*

Seriously, this was the sad plight of a "*eunuch.*"

Often the man's situation wasn't his fault. He was the innocent victim of an accident, or injury. Perhaps, he was a slave - and was made a eunuch by some act of cruelty.

Now, to make matters worse, he's ostracized from the Temple. The worship of God, and all of its perks and privileges, were off-limits to such a man. He could've been a Jew - even loved God and wanted to serve - but his physical malady made him a second class citizen.

In light of the Law, a eunuch took a seat in the back of bus.... And all he could do about it was complain. Which is what he does in verse 3, *“Here I am, a dry tree.”*

In a sense a eunuch was damaged goods. Leviticus 23 excludes him from the house of God, along with people with other types of imperfections. Here’s the list, *“For any man who has a defect shall not approach: a man blind or lame, who has a marred face or any limb too long, a man who has a broken foot or broken hand, or is a hunchback or a dwarf, or a man who has a defect in his eye, or eczema or scab, or is a eunuch.”* Hey, in the OT God's house was only for the prim and proper.

If you were odd, or dinged up, or weren’t the perfect body type there was no place for you in God’s house. The Law of Moses banned the broken until they healed.

And of all the damaged folks the eunuch was the most stigmatized. He was seen as *a half-man - a part man*.

Worshippers were suppose to bring their best sacrifice to the altar. To reinforce that lesson, only the very best were allowed to bring the very best. **It was the Law!**

And the *“the son of a foreigner”* got similar treatment.

Deuteronomy 23:2 tells us, *“One of illegitimate birth shall not enter the assembly of the Lord; even to the tenth generation none of his descendants shall enter the assembly of the Lord.”* If you were an illegitimate child your family had to wait a while to feel at home in God’s house. You weren’t accepted until the tenth generation.

At the end of the book of Ruth we have King David’s family tree. And up the trunk of the tree you find Perez.

Perez was the offspring of Judah and his daughter-in-law, Tamar. She sought revenge, so she played the prostitute and lured Judah into her tent. Judah sired her twins, the oldest named *Perez*. And sure enough ten generations down that family tree you'll find King David.

Yet this certainly felt harsh for generations one through nine... Imagine, through no fault of your own, because of your branch on the family tree, you can't worship God like everyone else? You're barred from His house?

Of course, God had His reasons. For one, He wanted to protect His people from the corrupt spiritual practices of their pagan neighbors - *but I'm sure the left-out foreigner had a hard time appreciating God's concerns.*

Like a eunuch, all the foreigner could do was whine, *“The Lord has utterly separated me from His people...”*

Yet surprisingly, here in Isaiah 56 God changes **the House Rules**. He remodels *His house*. He makes room for the broken, and the damage, and the impotent, and the alienated - the *“eunuch”* and *“son of the foreigner.”*

Before this moment there were justifiable reasons to ban the *eunuch* and the *foreigner*, but not anymore.

This all foreshadows a New Covenant that God will make with His people - and not just Israel, but with the others He'll gather to Himself. In His spiritual Temple no longer will men be judged by their physical condition, or pedigree - but by the attitude of their heart... their faith!

**“Inclusion”** is now the watch-word in God's house.

Isaiah is saying there are no longer second class, back-of-the-bus riders on God's Greyhound. Everybody travels first class. God tells Isaiah, *"Don't let the eunuch or foreigner say they don't belong, when I say they do."*

In the spiritual house God is building He gives all people regardless of injury, or deformity, or pedigree, or origin - access to His peace, and presence, and power.

I love what God instructs Isaiah to tell the eunuch, *"To them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off."*

A eunuch was a man who'd said good-bye to a normal family life. In his future there would be no children to bless him. No one to take

him in when he got old, or carry on his name after him. His influence was *cut off!*

But not so for the eunuch in God's house!

God takes the childless, the lonely into His family. He gives him a place and a name better than sons and daughters. The alienated has a home with God's people.

Last year when Kathy and I traveled to Italy, I bought Kathy a ticket with frequent flyer miles, and upgraded her to first class. The plan was for her and I to split the trip.

She would fly upfront half-way, and then we'd swap for the second half. Before we took off Kathy came to the back of the plane. She saw her husband curled up his seat like a packed sardine. *Said she'd see me half-way.*

When she left, I told the girl next to me, I didn't expect to see her again until the plane touched down in Italy.

I know my wife too well. *And I was right.* She stretched out in that first-class recliner, and never woke up. *And her conscience never blinked.* I never complained and she never apologized. She took it as a blessing from God and Sandy. Kathy knows how to enjoy a blessing!

And this is the picture I want you to see of God's house. This place, CCSM, is a blessing if you see it from the right perspective. If you'll stop holding people at bay, and keeping your distance, and making excuses, and whining and complaining to God, *"Here I am, a dry tree."*

*Would you please try reaching out!* I hate getting all sappy, but if you're a dry tree you need to get sappy!



*Love somebody and see if they won't love you back!*

Your kids may live across the country. Your friends might've moved. You may be new to the community and feel alone. You're so busy, it's hard to meet anybody.

Well, *here are your sons and daughters!*

The house of God is full of potential relationships you can cultivate. You can have a name in this house - a name that's known and loved and recognized by others.

Many of us are running the rat *race*, and we're as easy to cuddle up with and get to know as a rat. *Stop blaming your church, and start being the church.* Make a serious effort and trust God to find you a place in His family.

If God make a name for the eunuch and the son of the foreigner then He'll make a place and a name for you.

But there's another word that characterizes the attitude you find in God's house, and that's **conviction**.

The eunuch and foreigner are admitted only if they're serious about a few things... Verse 4 reads, *“Thus says the Lord: “To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, and choose what pleases Me, and hold fast My covenant...”*

God doesn't care if a man has been emasculated, or a woman feels like a foreigner... God loves damaged goods, and He wants to bring them both into His spiritual family... *as long as they hold a couple of convictions.*

First, God asks us to *“keep His Sabbath.”* In the OT avoiding work on Saturday was a paramount priority. God expected all His people to master *Sabbath 101*.

The seventh day was for rest and worship - not work.

But in the NT Jesus taught that there was more to the Sabbath Day. In Mark 2:27, He said, “**The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.**” Most Jews at the time saw the Sabbath as laborious. It’s details were burdensome - *a hassle rather a helpful practice.*

But not Jesus, He saw the Sabbath as a spiritual oasis in a wilderness of work, and busyness, and frantic living.

To Jesus the Sabbath wasn’t a legalistic *straightjacket*, it was a *lifejacket* - a lifeline to people drowning in a sea of busyness. For folks having a hard time managing life, the Sabbath was a way of regaining their equilibrium.

It taught us how to balance God, and work, and family.

Sabbath was about developing a rhythm in life... of work *and worship* - rigor *and rest* - pressure *and peace*.

There's a saying in archery, "The bow that's always bent ceases to shoot straight." Some of us are addicted to work. The Sabbath is our chance to relax the string.

Don't let the drive of work overwhelm you. God wants us to deliberately carve out some *margin* in our life - a space, some room - for worship, rest, family, and leisure.

And Sabbath is that margin. It's a diversion from the daily grind. Sabbath is the "*worship component*" of life.

And it's got to be a *conviction*. If there's no conviction - *no determination to just do it* - Sabbath won't get done.

This is why the Sabbath rest was enforced in the OT, while in the NT God wants us to embrace the spirit of the law. Either way Sabbath observance is a **conviction**.

And God's house is for people with this conviction.

It's for people **who've made up their mind that life is more about worship than it is about work**. What's the use of *employment*, if there's not some *enjoyment*?

Sabbath is our weekly reminder that God matters most. That apart from Him the rest of our lives is vanity.

But there's another **conviction**. God says that His house is for people who ***"choose what pleases Me..."***

The eunuch and the foreigner were two people who had a few bad breaks in life. **Born** in the wrong place at the wrong time... **Injured** in *the wrong place* at any time.

Either deformed or damaged - it wasn't their fault. This was NOT how their life was suppose to pan out.

Yet here are people who despite getting the short end of the stick didn't become self-indulgent, and self-centered, and says it's all about me - instead they chose what pleased God. They yielded *their will to God's will*.

In today's mixed-up, gender-confused world, I've read of boys who were injured and became eunuchs, and folks prescribed hormone therapy, and suggested a sex change. They wanted to redirect his sexual orientation.

*Even though same sex behavior is prohibited by God!*

The eunuch invited into God's House faced the same dilemma. He might've been justified in his own mind - or in the minds of others - to explore different sexual options, *but instead He chose what pleased God.*

He was committed to his manhood, even when expressing it became more difficult. He fought through whatever feelings he had, and temptations he felt, to uphold God's concept of gender. *And God invited him in.*

Let me just say, everyone of us chooses who we want to please... ourselves, the society, our peers... or God.

I don't care how twisted or damaged a person is when they walk through our doors - we are going to love them. I will fight for their right to be here. This is God's house, and it's no longer reserved for the pristine and perfect.

Folks who worship here - myself included - might be disturbed, and flawed, and fall short... but we all have one thing in common - we *choose what pleases God.*

Yet on the other hand, if you live for yourself - and do only as you please, and don't care otherwise - I'm sorry, but you don't belong in God's house - *that is, this house.*

In His house we live by what we're convinced is His truth, not our own *convenience.* We've concluded God is smarter than us, so we *“choose what pleases Him...”*

And the last **conviction** that's held by the person who belongs in God's house is to *“hold fast His covenant.”*

The covenants were the terms of God's relationship with man. With *Adam*, and *Noah*, and *Abraham*, and *David* - then with



*Jeremiah and Ezekiel* - God made promises and established agreements or covenants.

This is mind-boggling... that the holy, wonderful God in heaven wants a relationship with the likes of us...

But here's the point, God didn't leave it up to people to set their own terms - to come to Him however they liked.

God is *very specific*. With every covenant He makes He obligates Himself to people, but to only those folks who are willing to keep the terms of His covenant.

This weeds out the people who want the benefits of a relationship with God, but only on their own terms.

They want to use God to foster their agenda - whether that's *fattening their bank account, or bettering their marriage, or healing their disease, or bringing home a wayward child...* and God may do

all that - He loves us and likes to bless us - but not because we demand it.

God doesn't play by our rules, *we play by His!*

People barter with God. They're willing to go so far, but at some point God has to meet them on their terms.

Sorry, God won't participate in *your* covenant.

If you want a relationship with God, you have to *“hold fast (to) His covenant.”* And in the covenant He offers us in Jesus is to *repent and believe*. That means turn from your expectations and ideas and let Jesus call the shots.

Former missionary to India, Lesslie Newbigin, wrote of a visit he made to a remote village. The villagers were expecting him and wanted to give him a warm welcome.

You could enter the town either from the north or the south. The villagers figured the missionary would enter from the south. They had music, fireworks, garlands, fruit, and dance. They were rolling out the red carpet.

But Newbigin entered the village from the north. All that greeted him were goats and chickens. Immediately, he ducked for cover, and sent word to the villagers that he was coming into town from the northern end.

The entire village did an about-face, and reassembled the party at the opposite end of town. When they reoriented their expectations, Newbigin reappeared.

And this is a picture of repentance. Jesus realizes we are looking for life in all the wrong places, so He tells us to repent... *look in a new direction - turn to Him!*

Some people seek God, *but at the wrong end of town.*

They have their own expectations, and when He fails to meet them, they bail on their faith. God expects *us* to adjust to His will and Word - *this is faith and repentance.*

When you *hold fast God's covenant* you're expressing your love and loyalty to His authority. You're embracing *His plans for you*, and *His transformation in you*, and *His leadership of you... and you're welcome into His house!*

God's house is about **inclusion** - even for the *eunuch* and the *foreigner*. It's about **conviction** - *keeping the Sabbath*, and *choosing what pleases Him*, and *being in covenant*. But it's also about **devotion** - acts of devotion like spiritual *climbing*, and *joy*, and *sacrifice* and *prayer*.

I love what God says to *“the sons of the foreigner.”* In verse 7, *“even them I will bring to My holy mountain...”*

When you reach a mountain you can be sure the path is headed in what direction? *Up!* You're in for a **climb!**

And this is what the house of God is all about. This is why we come to Church! We leave the valleys of this world - *the office, job site, marketplace, ballpark* - and we ascend God's holy mountain and breathe in deeply.

On the mountaintop we taste the rarified air. Above it all we get a better view. We see clearer and farther.

Woe to the person who lives his whole life in the valleys of this world - and breathes in only the pollution.

At street level our vision is hindered by walls, fog, turns in the road. Trust me, your peace of mind depends on you climbing to the mountaintop from time to time.

And this is what happens at Church. *You climb a little!*

A song reminds you of a truth about God you haven't thought of all week... The pastor says something that causes you to make an admission or an adjustment...

Your kids leave with a new perspective. They're exposed to God's truth, not just the world's propaganda.

*You climb...* and I've never done a climb that didn't involve some effort, and take some energy. It's hard, but no one on the mountaintop questions if it was worth it.

*What goes on in God's house? There's climbing, and there's joy! The house that Jesus built is all about joy.*

Verse 7, *"I will bring (them) to My holy mountain and make them joyful..."* The church, *the house of God*, should be a joyful place. Hide the pickle juice, and castor oil. Bring out the bubbly! And not *liquor*, but *living water* - the deep down satisfaction that only Jesus can tap.

Paul writes in Ephesians 5, *"Be not drunk with wine, but be filled with the Spirit."* Psalm 16 says to Jesus, *"In Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."* Church is where we find joy!

If you want to be happy - just change your mood for a time there're a lot of places that will help you... the bar, the sporting event, the strip club, the movie theater...

But if you want real joy - *a touch of heaven* - the divine lift that transcends the moment, and is detached from your circumstances - then come to God's house.

They say you always know when the Queen is in Buckingham Palace, for her flag flies overhead. And joy is the flag that let's us know that Jesus is in the house.

Where *Jesus rules* there is joy unspeakable.

Here are the acts of **devotion** that should occur in God's house... **climbing**, and **joy** - and third, **sacrifice!**

Isaiah writes for God in verse 7, "**Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar...**" God's house is a place of **sacrifice**. There's always been an altar in God's house. There were sacrifices *of service, and of praise, and of thanksgiving, and of dedication.*



Of course, there was always a sacrifice *for sins*.

For 1500 years, a river of blood flowed from the Tabernacle and Temple. In the OT millions of lambs were sacrificed on the altar to cover the sins of God's people.

Today though in the spiritual temple, the Church, only one lamb was sacrificed for sin. John identified Jesus "as the Lamb of God." He was the perfect sacrifice. He died once for all men. No other blood needs to be shed.

But there are still sacrifices offered in God's house...

On the spiritual altar we offer ourselves as *a living sacrifice*. We give to God *our money, our praise, our time, our service, our testimony, our talents, our gifts*.

Sacrifice still comes from the hearts of God's people.

Last but not least, God speaks through His prophet and declares what should reign supreme in His house...

In fact, He mentions it twice for emphasis. *“For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”*

Make no mistake about it, God’s house should be first and foremost *“a house of prayer...”* But what is prayer?

**Prayer is communication with God...**

When we read His Word, God is talking to us... when we apply His Word to our lives we’re talking to Him.

When we hear sung the praises of God, He’s talking to us... when we worship God we’re talking to Him.

When we speak to God words of love, and loyalty, and petition, and intercession - *OR* even when we vent our complaints - we are

talking to God... Then when we still our hearts and listen quietly, God is talking to us.

When we open ourselves to God, and moan or cry or laugh or just sit in His presence and enjoy Him, we're talking to God... and when we take a walk and suddenly our minds are flooded with heavenly thoughts, God is talking to us... *Add it all up and you can call it prayer!*

But there's a lot that goes on in God's house that is NOT prayer... For example, prayer is not me informing you and you informing to me... It's not either us talking politics - or chatting over news - or sports - or business.

It's not me making career contacts and expanding my network. It's not you finding friends and looking cool.

It's not some single guy or gal checking out the opposite sex, looking for a potential spouse. *Although that can be accompanied by prayer... "Lord, please!"*

I'm just saying, when we come to church with an agenda other than prayer we need to beware. God's house should be first and foremost, **"a house of prayer."**

But that's not all God says. Read it again, ***"For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."***

The Jews always assumed God's house was for their exclusive use. The Temple was a *"members-only club."* They sequestered off certain courts as *"Jews Only."*

It never occurred to the Jews that God had a wider audience for the worship and prayer that would go on in its precincts. His was a house of prayer for ***"all nations."***

Today, this means *every church should let all people pray - and then be concern about praying for all people.*

When you grasp this portrait of Jesus' house in the prophecy of Isaiah, it shines a light on an event that happened in Jesus' life. It's recorded in Mark 11:15...

“So they came to Jerusalem. Then Jesus went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

And He would not allow anyone to carry wares through the temple. Then He taught, saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’”

When Jesus entered the Temple that day He couldn't believe how the Jewish leaders had corrupted a place of **devotion**. Rather than **climbing**, they were *sinking...*

Rather than **joy**, they were bartering and jousting...

Rather than **prayer**, this was all about profit...

And though they were selling animals to be **sacrificed**, this had nothing to do with real sacrifice. It was a scam!

To offer an animal it had to be a certified sacrifice, purchased only from the Temple. The priests created a monopoly, and sold their animals at marked-up prices.

They also required a temple tax. But it had to be paid with a coin minted by Temple officials. No problem, just trade your Roman coins for Temple coins... *at a fee of course. These moneychangers were nothing but crooks.*

In short, the priests were making a buck off God. This was not *praying to God*, it was *preying on people*.

No wonder Jesus got angry. He overturned tables, and tossed the greedy priests out on their ear. Scripture says it was after this episode that the Jews plotted to kill Him.

The Jewish priests had no **devotion** or **conviction**.

They had no respect for **the Sabbath rhythms**. Real worship was not on their radar. Rather than rest from their work, they brought business into God's house.

And they had no intention to **choose what pleased God**. This was all about their desires and their ambitions.

And who among them cared about **God's covenant**? They had no desire to know God, and be used by God. Instead they wanted to

know just enough about God and His ways that they could use Him for their own gain...

And their actions in the Temple had nothing to do with any kind of **inclusion**. For these priests could care less about the “*eunuch*” and the “*sons of the foreigner.*”

It’s interesting, these shenanigans - this bazaar - was in the outer court. This was the one place on the Temple platform where the *eunuch* and *foreigner* could come.

This meant that in the eyes of those who needed God most, His glory was being tainted - His purposes marred.

Rather than inviting the *eunuch* and the *son of the foreigner* the priests turned them off with their hypocrisy.



This is why Jesus prohibited the Jews from even shuttling their wares across the Temple compound. As they trampled through the Outer Court with their stuff, and their loot, they made a mockery of true worship.

They had turned the Temple into a “den of thieves.”

And tragically, this insured that *the outsiders would stay on the outside...* *The foreigner* died with no place to call home, and *the eunuch's* name would be forgotten.

Here's the take away for us today. *Is this house, CC, His house?* Are we a place of **inclusion**? Do we provide people a name? Does the outcast find a home here?

Do we hold common **convictions**?... Is our worship more vital to us than our work? Do we seek to please God? Do we relate to God on His terms, not our own?

And how's our **devotion**? Are we climbing spiritually, or standing still? Is joy our hallmark? Is there an altar here - are sacrifices made? Is prayer our agenda?

Remember you can tell a lot about a person by looking at his house. Let's reflect our Lord, *and be His house!*