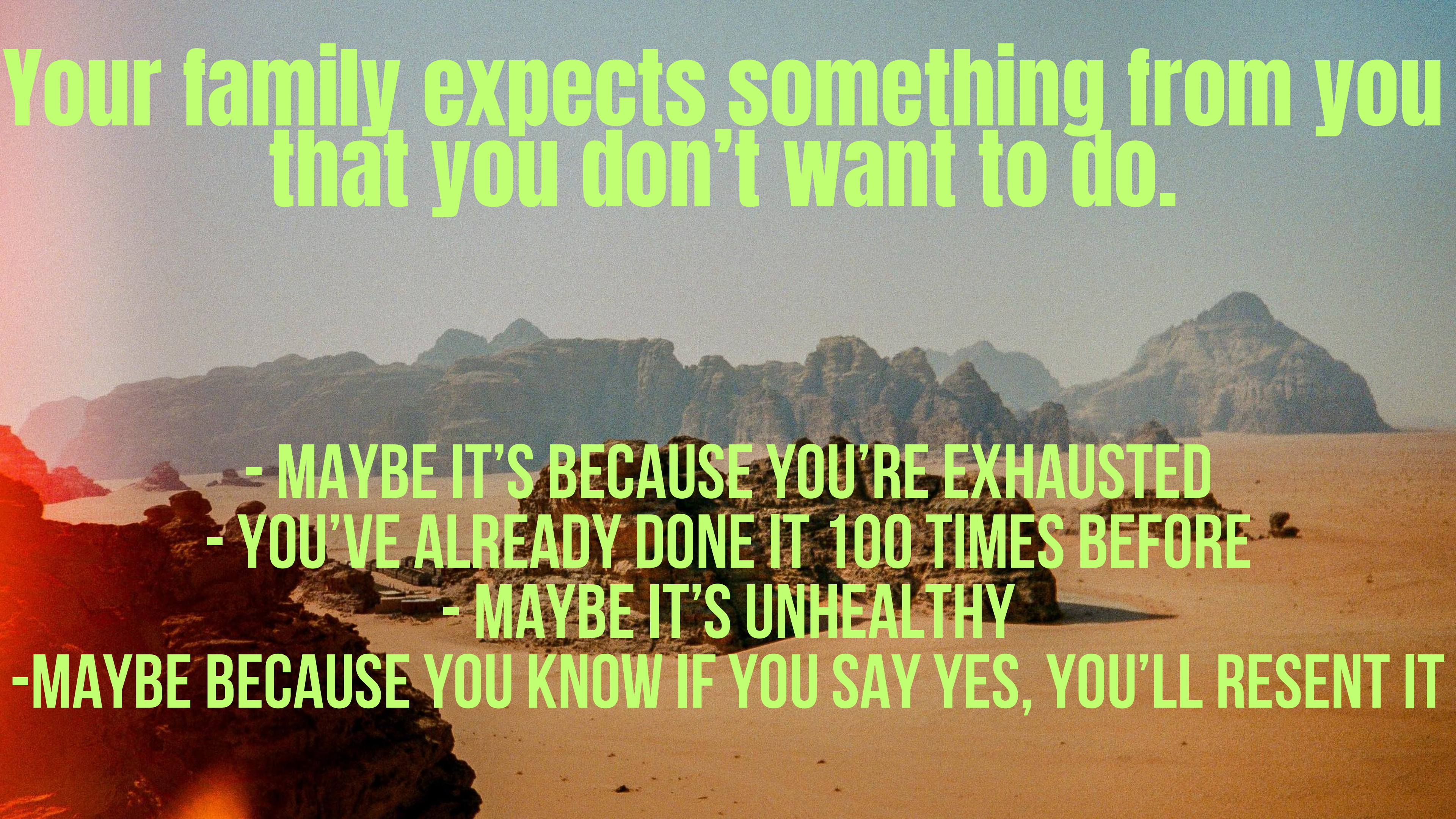


Real Life



A desert landscape with a red rock formation in the foreground and mountains in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

**Your family expects something from you
that you don't want to do.**

- MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE EXHAUSTED**
- YOU'VE ALREADY DONE IT 100 TIMES BEFORE**
- MAYBE IT'S UNHEALTHY**
- MAYBE BECAUSE YOU KNOW IF YOU SAY YES, YOU'LL RESENT IT**

The background of the image is a scenic view of a desert coastline. In the foreground, there are dark, jagged rock formations. Beyond them is a wide, sandy beach. In the distance, there are several large, rugged mountains or cliffs under a clear sky. The overall color palette is dominated by warm tones like orange, red, and brown, suggesting a sunset or sunrise setting.

What do you do?

KEEP SAYING YES??

FINALLY SAY NO??

**HOW DO YOU HONOR YOUR FAMILY WITHOUT
BECOMING CONTROLLED BY THEM?**

Honor Doesn't Always Mean Agreeing

Honor means treating someone with dignity and respect

Sometimes honoring means respectfully disagreeing

Don't confuse respect with surrendering every decision

**“HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER. THEN YOU WILL LIVE A LONG, FULL LIFE
IN THE LAND THE LORD YOUR GOD IS GIVING YOU.” (EXODUS 20:12)**

God's Will Comes Before Family Expectations

Sometimes following Jesus disappoints people

Obedience has never guaranteed understanding

Never sacrifice obedience just to keep everyone happy

“IF YOU WANT TO BE MY DISCIPLE, YOU MUST, BY COMPARISON, HATE EVERYONE ELSE—YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER, WIFE AND CHILDREN, BROTHERS AND SISTERS—YES, EVEN YOUR OWN LIFE. OTHERWISE, YOU CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE.” (LUKE 14:26)

Boundaries Are Biblical

Jesus had boundaries

You can love people while saying no

Healthy boundaries allow you to serve with joy

**“BEFORE DAYBREAK THE NEXT MORNING, JESUS GOT UP AND WENT OUT TO AN ISOLATED PLACE TO PRAY.
36 LATER SIMON AND THE OTHERS WENT OUT TO FIND HIM. 37 WHEN THEY FOUND HIM, THEY SAID,
“EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR YOU.” 38 BUT JESUS REPLIED, “WE MUST GO ON TO OTHER TOWNS AS WELL,
AND I WILL PREACH TO THEM, TOO. THAT IS WHY I CAME.” 39 SO HE TRAVELED THROUGHOUT THE REGION
OF GALILEE, PREACHING IN THE SYNAGOGUES AND CASTING OUT DEMONS.” (MARK 1:35-38)**

Speak The Truth in Love

Truth without love becomes harsh

Love without truth becomes dishonest

People may not always like your answer

“INSTEAD, WE WILL SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE, GROWING IN EVERY WAY MORE AND MORE LIKE CHRIST, WHO IS THE HEAD OF HIS BODY, THE CHURCH.” (EPHESIANS 4:15)

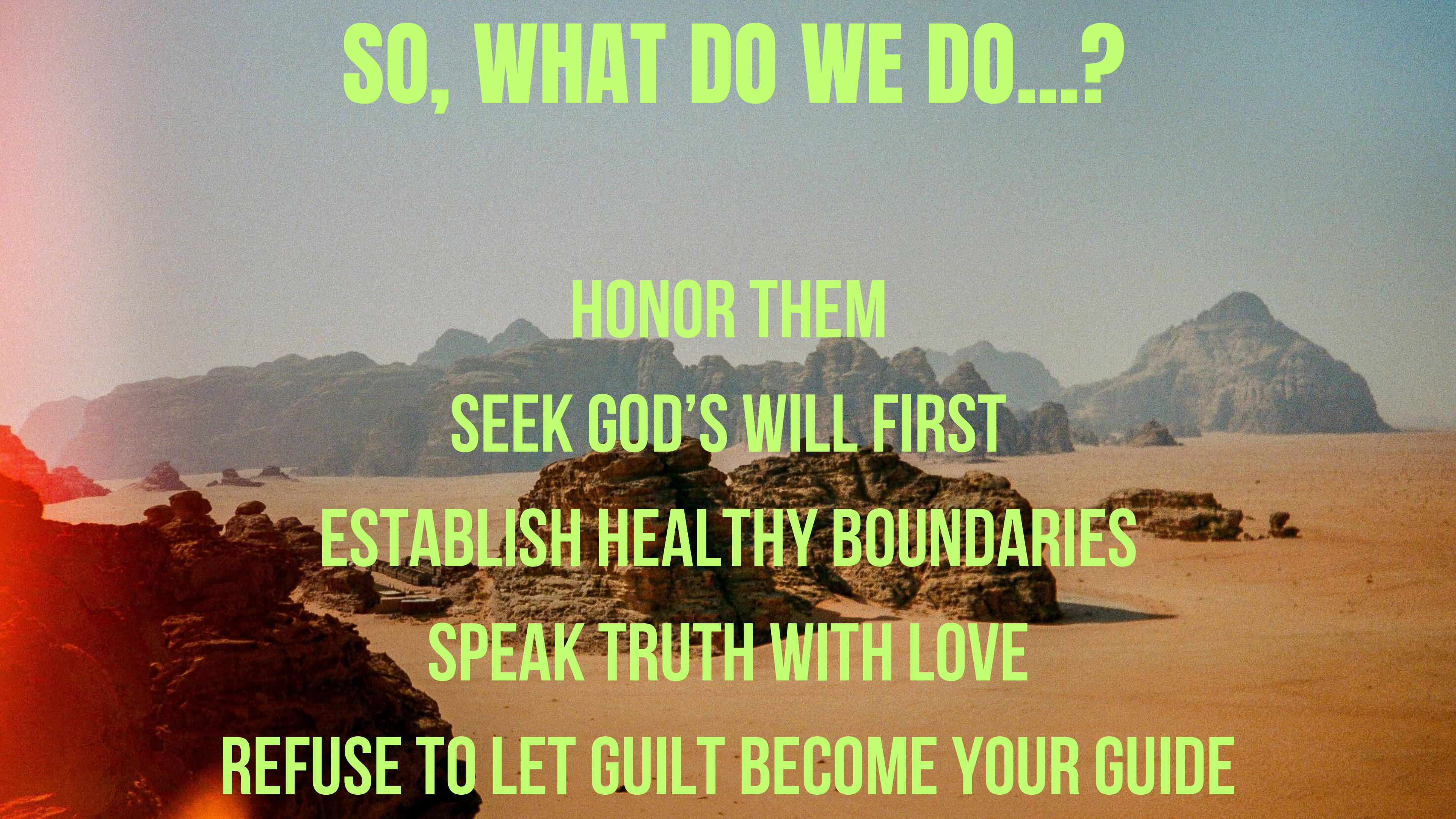
Love Your Family Without Letting Guilt Control You

Guilt should not drive your decision

You will never make everyone happy

Let God, not guilt, guide your decisions

“OBVIOUSLY, I’M NOT TRYING TO WIN THE APPROVAL OF PEOPLE, BUT OF GOD. IF PLEASING PEOPLE WERE MY GOAL, I WOULD NOT BE CHRIST’S SERVANT.” (GALATIANS 1:10)



SO, WHAT DO WE DO...?

HONOR THEM

SEEK GOD'S WILL FIRST

ESTABLISH HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

SPEAK TRUTH WITH LOVE

REFUSE TO LET GUILT BECOME YOUR GUIDE

Here's the Truth...

Honoring your family doesn't always mean saying "yes." Sometimes it means saying "no" with love, wisdom, and grace.