

LESSON THREE: TRANSFORM OUR FAMILIES

LET PARENTS BE DISCIPLES

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

“Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. ⁷ Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 6:5-7).

This passage of Scripture is the common denominator of all parenting. We cannot transform the world unless we first transform our families. Parents need to teach their children to love all people; to have a heart for their community, nation, and world; to have a passion to reach the lost with the gospel; and to disciple new believers.

Q: Why did Moses begin with the heart of the parents?

Q: What does the following statement mean to you, “Parents teach what they know, but reproduce what they are?”

LET PARENTS MAKE DISCIPLES

Deuteronomy 6:7

*“Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you **sit in your house** and when you **walk along the road**, when you **lie down** and when you **get up**” (Deuteronomy 6:7).*

Q: According to Moses, where and when are parents to teach their children the principles of God’s Word?

Q: What would be the modern application of where we are to teach our children?

- **“Sit in your house?”** (around the kitchen table at mealtime, while playing a game with the family, while watching something on television, etc.)
- **“Walk along the road?”** (when we go for walks with our children, ride bicycles together, ride in the car, play in the backyard or the park, etc.)
- **“Lie down?”** (bedtime devotionals & prayer)
- **“Get up?”** (devotional or Scripture reading around the breakfast table or pray with your children before they go to school)

Every moment in life can be a teachable moment with our children. Ask the Holy Spirit to make you aware of teachable moments as they come along so that you will not miss them.

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HOW TO DISCIPLE YOUR CHILDREN

One of the most powerful presentations of the gospel is a personal one. Therefore, we suggest that you share your own story of faith with your children using the following short outline:

- What my life was like before I came to Christ.
- How I trusted Christ as my Savior.
- What my life is like now since I trusted Christ.

Ephesians 6:4

“Fathers, don’t stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4).

Q: What do you think Paul had in mind when he told fathers to “...bring them [his children] up in the discipline...of the Lord?”

Q: What does it mean to “...bring them up in the...instruction of the Lord?”

Q: In what specific ways can a child be “instructed in the Lord?”

TAKING THE LESSON HOME

Joshua 24:15

“But if it doesn’t please you to worship Yahweh, choose for yourselves today the one you will worship: the gods your fathers worshiped beyond the Euphrates River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living. As for me and my family, we will worship Yahweh”

Q: What did Joshua mean when he said, “As for me and my family, we will worship Yahweh?”

Q: How does this statement apply to your family becoming a “Great Commission” family?

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

“Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. ⁷ Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 6:5-7).