

## **PARENTING WITH A PURPOSE**

### **DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

1. Illustration
2. In this passage structure for society is introduced.
3. The home is where the truth of God is to be taught.
4. We will see what God says about the family particular how we can parent with a purpose.

#### **5. Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

6. Shema – first word in v.4, to hear, listen or obey.

#### **I. LOVE GOD**

A. V.4, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”

B. To love God is to obey and to obey God is to love God.

C. If you want your children to obey you, they need to see a lifestyle of obedience to God.

D. Loving God is more than the demonstration of emotions. It is the demonstration of a complete surrender of my will to His.

E. Notice the extent of this obedience:

1. “Heart” – The Hebrews believed the heart was the seat of the intellect, the process of the mind. The bowels were the seat of the emotions.
2. “Soul” – Will and emotions

### 3. "Strength" – our bodies

- F. Our children must see a complete submission of our lives to God in order to understand the depth of our love for Him.
- G. How can we ask them to obey us or God if they are not seeing that modeled before them?
- H. Do they see any other gods in us? "The Lord our God, the Lord is One."

## II. KNOW GOD

- A. V.6, "These words that I am giving to you today are to be in your heart."
- B. The admonition to parents is that they know the word of God.
- C. They must know it in a practical way. Heart vs. mind
- D. Children will not respond to an intellectual knowledge of God only but to a vibrant, practical knowledge.
- E. When I am giving direction to my child, they must understand why something is right or wrong.
- F. If all you say is, "because I said so;" one day that will stop working, and it will be sooner than you think.
- G. Parenting styles:
  - 1. 0-12 Coach
  - 2. 13-18 Cheerleader
  - 3. 19- Consultant
- H. Our children need to see God in us.
- I. Jesus said, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." John 14:9

- J. When we know the Word of God and apply the Word of God consistently, our children will see the Word of God in action.
- K. Do you know God? That's the most important knowledge you can have.

### **III. TEACH GOD**

- A. V.7, "Repeat" – "impress or teach."
- B. It is the image of the engraver of a monument who takes a hammer and chisel and carefully etches a text into the face of a slab of granite.
- C. It is our responsibility as parents to carefully, patiently and consistently etch the Word of God into the lives of our children.
- D. The church assumes a secondary role with this responsibility.
- E. How do we teach God to our children?

#### **1. Time**

- a. V.7, inactive and active.
- b. Nighttime and daytime.
- c. I must spend time with my children.
- d. No time, no teaching.

#### **2. Talk**

- a. There has to be a commitment to communicate.
- b. The emphasis of the text is that the parent moves toward the child. They initiate the process.

- c. I must get involved with their lives to create an atmosphere to talk.
  - d. Four tennis balls – You throw it, I hold it, game is over. Communication is like the game of catch. “How did school go?” “Fine.” End of game unless I throw another ball.
3. **Tough and tender discipline** – natural part of teaching.
- a. Why?
    - i. Because God’ s Word teaches it.
    - ii. Proverbs 3:11-12, “Do not despise the Lord’s instruction, my son, and do not loathe His discipline; for the Lord disciplines the one He loves, just as a father, the son he delights in.”
  - b. How?
    - i. Proverbs 29:15, “A rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a youth left to himself is a disgrace to his mother.”
    - ii. Proverbs 13:24, “The one who will not use the rod hates his son, but the one who loves him disciplines him diligently.”
    - iii. Proverbs 22:15, “Foolishness is tangled up in the heart of a youth; the rod of discipline will drive it from him.”
  - c. Discipline vs. abuse.
  - d. “Rod” – use something other than your hand. They will associate pain with the object and not you.
  - e. My dad did not believe in hair tonic but belt tonic.

f. Difference between a mistake and defiance. A child should never be disciplined because of:

Spills

Dirty clothes

Physically hurt

Forgetting something

g. As they get older need to be creative.

h. James Dobson, Straight Talk to Men and Their Wives. 10 year old boy named Robert was a patient of Dr. William Slonecker noticed cavities and referred him to a local dentist. Who would get the honor?

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. Parenting with a purpose can be accomplished regardless what your circumstances may be.
2. CBC correspondent Charles Kuralt captured on camera the story of the Chandlers, a black family in Prairie, MS.