

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE FAMILY

Part Two: The Role of the Home

Scripture: Deuteronomy 5:32,33; 6:1-9

SUNDAY APRIL 13, 2008

WHY THE HOME IS GOD'S FIRST CHOICE FOR SPIRITUAL TRAINING

1. No one has as much INFLUENCE in molding a child's heart as his/her PARENTS.
2. No place has as powerful or as lasting an influence on a child's development and formation during his/her EARLIEST and most impressionable years as the HOME.
3. No place offers as many or as EFFECTIVE opportunities for spiritual TRAINING and discipleship as the home.

SOME GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

1. In the effort to raise children with a HEART for GOD, home is the first line of defense; hence, the POWER of the home and Satan's determination to keep Christ from being our homes' true CENTER. The home offers opportunities for spiritual training that are not found anywhere else.
2. Spiritual lessons are to be first learned in the home.
3. Scripturally, every home is to be primarily a DISCIPLESHIP training center.
4. Parents are the HEART of the home; hence their awesome and UNPARALLELED opportunity to influence their children for the Lord.
5. Dad and Mom are to be a discipleship training TEAM.

GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS TO PARENTS

1. Love the LORD your God with all your HEART and with all your soul and with all your strength.
2. KEEP these commands I'm giving you today upon your hearts.
3. IMPRESS them on your children.
4. Talk about them:
 - A. When you SIT at home
 - B. When you WALK along the road
 - C. When you LIE DOWN
 - D. When you GET UP

RELATED SCRIPTURES

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your [mind and] heart and with your entire being and with all your might.

And these words which I am commanding you this day shall be [first] in your [own] minds and hearts; [then]

You shall whet and sharpen them so as to make them penetrate, and teach and impress them diligently upon the

[minds and] hearts of your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down and when you rise up. Deuteronomy 6:5-7

“Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Deuteronomy 6:4-7

RESPONSIVE READING

Deuteronomy 5:32,33; 6:1-9

So be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left.

Walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.

These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess,

so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.

Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

Impress them on your children.

Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the door frames of your houses and on your gates.