

Family Matters

MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 2 – IT ALL BEGINS IN THE HOME

¹These 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, ²so 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. ³Hear, 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 ancestors, promised you.

⁴Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

– Deuteronomy 6:1-6

PRINCIPLE #1

God's commands are intended to _____ his
_____ and to _____ our _____

PRINCIPLE #2

Parents should set the example for a _____ that _____

⁷Impress 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. ⁸Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

– Deuteronomy 6:7-9

PRINCIPLE #3

Faith formation is the _____ of a Christian home

PRINCIPLE #4

Leverage _____ and _____ as you
communicate faith to the next generation

DIGGING DEEPER

1. How do God's commands communicate his character?
2. What are some ways that God's commands protect our joy, even when they may be restrictive?
3. Why do some Christians put the burden for faith formation upon the church?
4. Why is it important for parents to set the example for a faith worth following?
5. If you are a parent, why might this make you nervous?
6. What do verses 4-6 teach us about love for God being shown through right beliefs and right behavior?
7. What is the most important responsibility of a Christian home? If this is true, what needs to change in your family?
8. What are some of the most memorable lessons you have learned in life? What made them memorable?
9. How can you leverage creativity and conversation in order to communicate faith to the next generation?
10. If you have children at home, what kind of faith example are you setting for your children? What are some ways that you can pass your faith on to your children?
11. If you do not have children (or children at home), how can you encourage parents in your sphere of influence to create a foundation for faith formation in their homes?