

Christian Parenting

Week 3: Saturating Your Children in the Word of God

I. The Role of the Word

- A. Wise for Salvation AND Equipped to Serve: 2 Timothy 3:14-17
- B. Faith Comes by Hearing... and Faith is Renewed by Hearing: Romans 10:17
- C. Transformed by the Renewing of the Mind: Romans 12:2
- D. A Whole Life Blessed by God: Psalm 1
- E. Warning and Reward: Psalm 19

II. A Key Text on Parenting: Whole Life Saturation in the Word— Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 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, ² 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. ³ 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.

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. ⁷ 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. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

A. Their Context

Israel was about to enter the Promised Land. For forty years the Jews had wandered in the desert because the generation of the Exodus had disbelieved God and had refused to enter the Promised Land. Therefore God promised on oath that none of that generation would enter the Promised Land, but that their children would.

After the forty years had passed and the last of that generation had died, the time had come for the next generation to enter the Promised Land. Moses stood in

front of the Israelites on the other side of the Jordan and gave them the Law of Moses for the second time... thus "Deuteronomy" means "Second Law" or second giving of the Law.

The warning was clear: If you obey these commands, you will live long in the land you are entering to possess. If you refuse to obey, you will die, and the nation will be evicted.

Of special concern was the pattern of passing on the Law of Moses from generation to generation. That shaping of the children by the parents was essential to the continuation of Israel in the Promised Land... and it is the focus of our passage today

B. The Key Role of the Law

Deuteronomy 6:1 *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*

C. The Threat: Being Deposed from the Land

Deuteronomy 6:10-18 *When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you-- a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, ¹¹ houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant-- then when you eat and are satisfied, ¹² be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹³ Fear the LORD your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. ¹⁴ Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; ¹⁵ for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land. ¹⁶ Do not test the LORD your God as you did at Massah. ¹⁷ Be sure to keep the commands of the LORD your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you. ¹⁸ Do what is right and good in the LORD's sight, so that it may go well with you*

D. The Remedy of Deuteronomy 6: Train Your Children in God's Word

Deuteronomy 6:20-25 *In the future, when your son asks you, "What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the LORD our God has commanded you?" ²¹ tell him: "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²² Before our eyes the LORD sent miraculous signs and wonders-- great and terrible-- upon Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household. ²³ But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land that he promised on oath to our forefathers. ²⁴ The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today. ²⁵ And if we are*

careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness."

E. Multigenerational Vision for Filling the World with God's Glory

F.

G.

III. Two Patterns: Formal and Informal Bible Training

A. Formal: Premeditated Planned Times of Bible Instruction

1. Daily Rhythm of Family Devotions: Morning and Evening is Best

2. Weekly Planned Times of Individual Discipleship

3. Other Patterns as the Lord Leads

B. Informal: Way of Life, As You Go Bible Instruction

1. Deuteronomy 6 shows the way

Deuteronomy 6:7-9 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. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

2. Life filled with teaching opportunities

C.

IV.

A.

B.

C.

V.

A.

B.

C.

VI.

A.

B.