

Sermon Notes

Parenting God's Way

Deuteronomy 6:1-7

1. The Motive for Parenting.

"Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the judgments which the LORD your God has commanded me to teach you, that you might do them in the land where you are going over to possess it, so that you and your son and your grandson might fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. O Israel, you should listen and be careful to do it, that it may be well with you and that you may multiply greatly, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey." - Deuteronomy 6:1-3 (NASB)

2. The Goal for Parenting.

"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." - Deuteronomy 6:4-5

3. The Strategy for Parenting.

"These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons 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 6:6-7

For Further Thought and Discussion

Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. What do you think is the biggest challenge parents face today?

Going Deeper

3. Please read Matthew 28:18-20 and Ephesians 6:4. What parallels can you see between disciple-making and parenting? How does parenting as disciple-making compare with the way most people today view parenting? If a parent's chief aim is for their child to love and walk with Jesus, how might that change their parenting?
4. Please read Deuteronomy 6:1-3. Why does Moses want a new generation of Israelites to keep God's commands? What does this imply about a parent's motive? What are some practical ways parents can teach their children that God is good and His intentions toward us are always in our best interests? Almost all parents want the best for their children. What other paths besides God's are parents taking today in their attempts to give their children a happy life? What are the results of taking these paths?
5. Please read Deuteronomy 6:4-5. After Moses talks about the reason to obey God, he states the greatest commandment. What does vs. 4-5 reveal about the real goal of parenting? How do these verses illustrate that what we believe about God determines how we behave? What do these verses say about a passing on a "Sunday only" faith to our children? In what ways is loving God different from being merely religious?
6. Please read Deuteronomy 6:6-7. How are parents to teach their children? Why does teaching our children begin with our own relationship with Christ? What do these verses indicate that parents can do for their children what institutions cannot? According to these verses, what is necessary for effective parenting?

Application

What is one thing you will apply from this discussion?