

The Discipleship of Children

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-6



“We cannot impress our children with the fame of God’s name if we are not impressed with Him ourselves”

Ted Tripp ~ *Shepherding a Child’s Heart*



⁷ You shall teach them diligently to 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. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

DEUTERONOMY 6:7-9



God has given to **parents** the *primary responsibility* for the theological education of their children!



Verbal Instruction

- Diligently - Repeatedly, intentionally, structurally.
 - This describes **formal instruction**
 - Can be done through studying a book of the Bible together as a family, or topics from the Bible in a systematic approach

You shall teach them diligently to your children...

Deuteronomy 6:7



⁹ “Only take care, and keep your soul **diligently**, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children...

DEUTERONOMY 4:9



Verbal Instruction

- Informal instruction
 - Take opportunities to speak of God often.

⁷ You shall teach them diligently to 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.

Deuteronomy 6:7



Visible Instruction

- They were to adorn themselves and their homes with the truth of God's Word.

⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:8-9



The Role of the Church

1. Teaching and Equipping

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), ³ “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” ⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:1-4



The Role of the Church

1. Teaching and Equipping
2. Corporate Worship

¹⁶ *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, **singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs**, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

Colossians 3:16



The Role of the Church

1. Teaching and Equipping
2. Corporate Worship
3. Christ-Centered Community

...we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:15b-16



Children are disciplined by both the parents and the church. Parents hold the primary responsibility before God in the theological education of their children, and the church provides the necessary components of Christ-centered community, corporate worship, and sound teaching that reinforces the godly teaching of the parents.

