

God's Commands for Parents

International Bible Lesson

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Sunday, May 25, 2014

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“And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up” (Deuteronomy 6:6-7—KJV).

“Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise” (Deuteronomy 6:6-7—NRSV).

The Bible gives the best advice for believing parents and families. When parents study the Bible, they need to not only discover interesting facts but also learn the moral implications of believing in God and how to please Him. In the Bible, God has given us commands to obey for our own good and the good of others. When we take God's commands to heart, it means we commit ourselves to obeying God and His commands as quickly as we learn them. If we refuse to practice the commands we say we believe, God can give us over to depraved minds and our thinking and behavior can go from bad to worse (see Romans 1:18-32). To prepare our children for the future and to prevent them from degrading practices, God tells parents to be good examples and also teach the Bible and the commands of God to their children. Parents and children can learn to recite the Ten Commandments (see Exodus 20) and the Beatitudes (see Matthew 5). Parents need to talk to their children about how to apply what they are learning from the Bible when they are at home and when they are away from home. The good behavior of their children can bring delight to everyone they meet. Parents need to teach their children how practical, reasonable, right, and God-honoring the commands of God are in everyday life situations when their children get ready for bed at night and after they wake up to begin a new day. — © Copyright 2014 L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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Thinking Further

1. If someone is holding a grudge against someone, what are some things they can do to obey God?

2. In what ways can Christian families help each member in the family live faithful and obedient to Jesus Christ as their Lord?

3. In what ways did Jesus show that obeying the Law of God was important?

4. What reasons can you give for thinking the scribe who asked about the greatest commandment might have become a sincere follower of Jesus?

5. Why do you think Jesus answered the scribe directly instead of in a parable?