

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **October 3, 2021** Family Theme | **Everyday Discipleship** Study Text | **Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Luke 9:23**

Objective: Parents and grandparents help children focus on learning and practicing God's Word every day.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This scriptural concept of family discipleship is introduced in Deuteronomy at the end of Moses' life and before Joshua led Israel into the Promised Land (1406 BC). It is continued throughout both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Bible Basics: Go over the following question and answer each day this week and work with family members to do so as well. **Is there any other God? Answer:** No. There is only one God (Deuteronomy 6:4), and He exists as a unity of three persons called the Trinity. These three are the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Mark 1:9-11).

Read the Word: Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Luke 9:23

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children or grandchildren develop daily habits of learning God's Word and applying it to their lives.



Key Truth: Discipleship Includes Learning God's Word, Practicing It, and Teaching It to Others (Deuteronomy 6:1-3)

Discipleship is a word not used commonly outside the religious setting. A disciple is a follower or a learner. Deuteronomy 6:1-3 helps us understand that discipleship is learning, practicing, and teaching the ways of God. Discipleship is more than just Bible study; it is a way of life that models Christianity to those around us. We grow in Christ daily and help others grow (especially our children).



Key Truth: Discipleship Is for Every Day, Not Just Sunday (Luke 9:23)

In Luke 9:23, the Lord said anyone who wants to be His disciple must deny self, take up his or her cross *daily*, and follow Him. This section will focus on one aspect of this command: daily. It is important to know that following Christ is an everyday thing. We are to be as much of a Christian Monday through Saturday as we are on Sundays. How can we make sure that spiritual growth is part of our daily lives? Daily spiritual disciplines (good habits) such as the following have helped Christians walk closely with God during the past 2000 years: prayer, Bible reading and study, memorizing Scripture, worship, journaling, biblical meditation, fellowship with other believers, living a simple life, and submitting all areas of our lives to God.



Key Truth: Parents Have the Privilege and Responsibility of Discipling Their Children (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

This passage is a command from God for parents to teach their children about Him in multiple ways, multiple places, and at multiple times. It begins with the parents' relationships with God. Parents are to love God with all their being and take God's Word to heart. That includes putting it into practice. Then they are to teach it to their children. Parents are to teach the Lord's commandments at home, along the road, in the morning and the evening, and whenever else the opportunity arises. The local church is here to help and

equip parents, and to provide other Christian mentors for our children. But the biblical command to teach, train, mentor, and model the faith to our children is given to parents. No one has more influence on a child's life than his or her parents.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What is discipleship?
- In what ways is discipleship to be a daily thing, not just a Sunday thing?
- What kinds of things can we do daily to grow as a disciple?
- What kinds of things can we do daily to disciple others?
- Who carries the primary responsibility for teaching children to follow Christ? Why?
- What does it look like for parents and grandparents to use teachable moments to pass the faith along to the next generation?
- If you have children or grandchildren, what teachable moments will you use this week to talk with them about God?
- **For Elementary:** What is discipleship?
- **For Elementary:** What kinds of things can we do daily to grow as a disciple?
- **For Elementary:** What kinds of things can we do daily to disciple others?

Everyday Extras

Draw your Spiritual Family Tree. Who led you to the Lord? Who led that person to the Lord? See how many "generations" you can identify. This may take some investigation, but the task will undoubtedly lead to some good discoveries. Send those spiritual parents and grandparents a thank you card.

Deuteronomy 6:7-9 taught about the teachable moments in family life: sitting at home, walking (or driving) down the road, bedtime, and first thing in the morning. Parents, be sure to optimize those everyday occasions with your children. Brainstorm together how you might improve one of those opportune times to share God's truth with your children. (Hint: If you have teens, you'll probably want to emphasize bedtime instead of early mornings.)

Preschool Highlights for &

Today your child learned God is the Creator of all families, but not all families look the same. God wants all families to help each other learn more about Jesus and to care for each other. Your child also heard a Webster Family story to help him or her remember **God Made Families**, and He loves them all.