**CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE IN AN UPSIDE DOWN WORLD** **Text: Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Date: 4-25-21 Sunday AM**

This present evil age is not family friendly! Truthfully, this world has never been “family friendly.” God’s people have always been viewed as peculiar from the world’s perspective, but from God’s perspective family has always been under His watch care. This has been true from Genesis through John’s Revelation. Throughout God’s Word we see that He has always cherished His people. Adam and Eve’s fall into sin recorded in Genesis 3 impacted God’s plan for the family. **But, remember this; God has never turned His back upon His original plan which He gave in Genesis 1-3.**

In the beginning God made man and woman and instructed them to be fruitful and to multiply. From this we learn that God made man and woman and by doing so settled the issue of gender forever. God also told Adam and Eve to leave their families and be separated to Himself as one flesh. ***So yes, gender and family are uniquely divine and uniquely God’s creation! By the way, this will never change!***

**Gender** came from God. **Family** came from God. **Sex** came from God. **Childbearing** came from God! **ALL** of creation came from the Lord Himself! Not one of the things mentioned here originated with us. Neither are they the product of evolution at any level! They ALL originated with GOD, and they all belong to God! He allows us the privilege of being a part of His original creative order. I plan to stay with God’s plan, and I trust that you will too!

**I. First, Honor the Lord and Obey Him ~ 6:1-3**

* **Deuteronomy 6:1-3 (KJV)** Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the **LORD your God** commanded [Me] to teach you, that ye might **do** *them* in the land whither ye go to possess it: 2 That thou mightest **fear** the **LORD thy God**, to **keep** all His statutes and His commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and **observe** to do *it*; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.
* Moses’ emphasis here is upon honoring the LORD and His WORD through OBEDIENCE! [This idea is presented about **50 times** throughout Deuteronomy]
* **John 14:15 (KJV)** If ye love Me, keep My commandments.
* **John 14:21 (KJV)** He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him.
* **6:1** ~ **FIRST,** The Word of God
* **Deuteronomy 6:1 (KJV)** Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do *them* in the land whither ye go to possess it:
* These forms of God’s Word touch the various relationships within our lives. They guide and influence us in how we live and how we worship!
* God’s Word is meant to touch our intellect, our will and our emotions.
* **6:2** ~ **SECONDLY,** The Fear of God
* **Deuteronomy 6:2 (KJV)** That thou mightest **fear the LORD thy God**, to keep all His statutes and His commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.
* **“Fear…”** = “to reverence.” To stand in “AWE” of GOD!
* Reverence is displayed through obedience.
* As we reverence the LORD, we honor Him!

**What or Who we worship identifies what or Who we live for!**

* Our children need to know **WHO** we worship and **WHY** we worship Him!
* **WE NEED TO GET THIS…** Reverencing God leaves a legacy that **transcends** generations!
* When we truly reverence the Lord, it touches us at home and at church.
* **VERY IMPORTANT…** Following the Lord’s instructions, Moses encourages us to make **a multi-generational impact!!!**
* **CONSIDER THIS…** As a general rule, people that disrespect God and His Word often live short lives! I believe too many young people are dying today!
* **6: 3** ~ **THIRDLY,** The Blessings of God [Awesome motivation]
* **Deuteronomy 6:3 (KJV)** Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do *it*; that it may be well with thee [Personally and generationally], and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.
* **Our Legacy?** How do you want to be remembered?
* **6:3** ~ Nationally, Materially, Spiritually blessed by God!
* Nations/peoples that forget God end up being judged by God!
* **First, Honor the Lord and Obey Him ~ 6:1-3**

**II. Secondly, Honor the Lord and Love Him ~ 6:4-5**

* **Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (KJV)** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD: 5 **And** thou shalt love [HIM] the LORD thy God with **all** thine heart, and with **all** thy soul, and with **all** thy might.
* **Let’s ask ourselves TWO QUESTIONS…**
* **6:4** ~ **FIRST** **QUESTION:** **Who is the LORD?** Who is Moses talking about?
* **Deuteronomy 6:4 (KJV)** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD: [**The Shema**]
* **6:4** ~ asserts that the Lord God of Israel is absolutely God, and none other. He and He alone, is Jehovah (Yahweh) the absolute, uncaused God; the One who had, by His election of them, made Himself known to Israel. [Barnes' Notes on the Old Testament]
* **6:4** ~ Is called the **“Shema”** (from the Hebrew, **“Hear”**). This is the central tenet of Judaism, recited daily by devout Jews. The call to hear implies that the following words are very important and must be obeyed. What we are to hear is, “Yahweh is our God; Yahweh is one.” It can also be translated, “Yahweh is our God; Yahweh alone.” It means that Yahweh and only Yahweh is the true and living. [Steven Cole]
* **“The LORD our God”** is whom **we love**, whom **we obey**, whom **we serve** and whom **we worship**!
* **Jesus said in Matthew 6:24 (KJV)** No man can serve two masters…
* **Jesus prays in** **John 17:3 (KJV)** And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, *and* Jesus Christ, Whom Thou hast sent.
* **Isaiah 42:8 reminds us WHO HE is,** I *am* the LORD: that *is* My name: and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise to graven images.
* **Isaiah 45:5 adds,** I *am* the LORD, and *there is* none else, *there is* no God beside Me!
* **6:5** ~ **SECOND** **QUESTION:** **How are we to love the LORD?** Moses instructs us on how we are love the Lord!
* **Deuteronomy 6:5 (KJV)** And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with **all** thine heart, and with **all** thy soul, and with **all** thy might.
* We are to love Him with **ALL** of our being! **ALL** of who we are! Our kids can tell us who and what we love! They are extremely hard to fool!
* Jesus used these Scriptures to answer a key question in Matthew 22:34-40.
* We must leave no question in the minds of those around us as to who we love and who we live for!
* **First, Honor the Lord and Obey Him ~ 6:1-3**
* **Secondly, Honor the Lord and Love Him ~ 6:4-5**

**III. Thirdly, Honor The Lord and Remember Him ~ 6:6-9**

* **Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (KJV) And** these words, which I command thee this day, shall be *in thine heart*: 7 **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. 8 **And** *thou shalt bind them* for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9 **And** *thou shalt write them* upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.
* Each of these verses begin with the word **“and.”** This passage is one unit… tied to together for emphasis of what Moses is saying!!!
* Every day we must remember the Lord… every aspect of this world is about removing God from your life! True then & now!
* The Hebrews talked about their faith in God, but they also lived out their faith in God! Talk about it, yes! But live it out too!!!
* **QUESTION:** How does Moses deal with that reality?
* We are to teach our children God’s Word, formally and informally, in the home and outside the home!
* **6:6** ~ God’s Word… “In Thine Heart”
* **Deuteronomy 6:6 (KJV)** And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:
* **6:7** ~ God’s Word… “Unto Thy Children…”
* **Deuteronomy 6:7 (KJV)** 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.
* **PROCESS -> Repeat… Impress… Patiently… Encourage**
* **6:8** ~ God’s Word… “Thou Shalt Bind Them”
* **Deuteronomy 6:8 (KJV)** And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.
* **6:9** ~ God’s Word… “Thou Shalt Write Them”
* **Deuteronomy 6:9 (KJV)** And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.
* **TRUTH:** Every Christian home is a Christian school! Who are the primary teachers? Dad and Mom!
* **POINT:** Remember the Lord and His Word to love Him, and to obey Him! Make much of the LORD our God and His Word!
* **Isaiah 40:8 (KJV)** The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the Word of our God shall stand for ever.
* **First, Honor the Lord and Obey Him ~ 6:1-3**
* **Secondly, Honor the Lord and Love Him ~ 6:4-5**
* **Thirdly, Honor The Lord and Remember Him ~ 6:6-9**