

Family Matters – Modeling Matters

May 15, 2016 - Pastor Isaac Balban

The verses we are about to look at together are written in the context of both the individual home and corporate body. When it comes to family “what we model is what we multiply”.

-We begin in the “Shema” (Jewish family prayer. Both individual and corporate). This is applicable to parents, singles, married with no kids, etc. We are called as a body to disciple the next generation. We are the body (family) of Christ with the responsibility to be spiritual mothers and fathers to the next generation.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 will be our primary focus.

3 Concentric Circles of Family: (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

Circle 1: Love God

vv. 4 Family in its healthiest capacity is one that loves Jesus. A love for Christ that stirs up affections for Christ in our hearts and the next generation. Kids and students learn by our words and by our example.

-What does this look like for Mom and Dad?

-What does this look like if we have no kids?

Circle 2: Teach Them The Word

vv. 6 The home is the primary place of discipleship. This is not a formal Bible study. This is as *you live your lives*. We teach the Word with our words and actions. At the store, in the car, after practice, small group leaders, etc.

-Disclaimer: Parents and small group leaders and Christians in general you can not save your kids. This is the model but Christ is the solution. We can fall into 2 dangerous places as a family unit.

1. We pressure them instead of disciple them.

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2. Church reputation means more than their salvation.

Kids and students can easily associate following Jesus with being good on Sunday. This may be the culture of your home if you have ever heard them say “we cant do that in church”.

-At the end of the day the next generation will not be saved by persuasion or pressure. But they can be saved by Christ. So as a church body and as a family unit we pray, we disciple, and we point them to the joy of following Christ.

Circle 3: It is evident to the community:

It was the door posts (the first thing you see when you look at the home) that marked Gods people as His servants. Christian families will have a missional impact in your community. Neighbors, kids sports teams, community events, the gym, etc.

Calvary Mission statement- Learn, Live, Share. If we are learning and living but not sharing we didn't get it. “Our success is not measured by what we have done but what was left unfinished”.

Call to response: 3 options.

- Love God: This begins at salvation
- Repent: Begin to model the joy of following Christ.
- Go: We are learning and living but not sharing. Its time to be missional models.