FAMILY: Week 6 - The Family Legacy

Open in Prayer

Welcome/Introductions/Cast Vision

Remind the Grow Group of the ground rules

Share context of the story [Provide context by sharing the information below.]

In Deuteronomy 6, Moses gives the Israelites the commandment that would become known to the Jews as the Shema. Moses is calling them to internalize the commandments, so that the commandments, once written on stone tablets, would now be written on their hearts and passed along to their children. Moses also says that this commandment is to be a public matter. A person's wholehearted love for God is to be seen by those around them.

Tell the story – Deuteronomy 6:1-25 [Have someone tell the story.]

Rebuild the story [Group members tell the story together based on what they remember.]

Read the story out loud [Read the scripture passage to see if anything was added or omitted.]

Discuss these questions:

- 1. What do we learn about God from this passage? [God calls parents to be the primary faith nurturers of their children (v 2); God tells us that disciple making is an intentional effort on our part; Jesus is Lord (v 4); God desires an intimate and personal relationship with us; God's love has to first transform a parent's heart before they can pass it along to their children (v 6); God wants our homes to bring glory and honor to Him; God keeps His promises to us (verse 10 & 23); etc.]
- 2. What do we learn about Man/Us from this passage? [I am prone to leave the spiritual development of my children solely up to the church; I need to be more intentional in my time with my children; I can become distracted and seduced by the gods of this world; I need to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit as He reveals teachable moments that I can have with my children; I need to make sure my home and its contents honor Jesus Christ; when life is going well (prosperity), I can stray from God; etc.]
- 3. What is God saying to you specifically through this passage as it pertains to your life, marriage, family, and work?
- 4. In light of what you've learned today, what do you need to do to obey God?

Other questions specific to this passage:

- 1. Verses 6-9 paint a picture of someone who is continually focusing on God's Word. What changes might you need to make to keep His Word central in your life?
- 2. As a result of the Family series, are you doing anything differently with your family?

Assign next week's passage – Psalm 1 [Ask someone to tell the story.]

FAMILY: Week 6 - Leadership Coaching

The purpose of this page is to help you sharpen your skills as a Grow Group leader. Each week, we will include concepts, challenges, and resources designed to assist you as you lead and shepherd your Grow Group and grow as a disciple yourself.

Leading [learn to facilitate your group more effectively]

When you have a first time guest to your Grow Group:

- Have each person in attendance briefly introduce themselves (name and answer to one question like "What's your favorite dessert?" or "What was the first car you drove?")
- Share the guidelines for a Grow Group, as well as the purpose of a Grow Group (to grow in our relationship with God, grow closer to each other, and to grow numerically as people eventually leave spiritually ready to lead a Grow Group of their own)
- Make an effort to include them in the discussion
- Call them the next day, let them know you were glad they came and invite them back

Shepherding [know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]

Helping and supporting others is a vital aspect of group life. Be attentive to the practical needs in your group. Be aware of skills, knowledge, and gifts that you and others in the group have that could be used to help one another.

Developing [grow as a disciple yourself]

Have you ever wondered what the rest of the disciples thought when Peter jumped out of the boat and swam to shore to see Jesus? I am sure someone thought, "He is nuts!" Knowing Peter, someone else probably thought, "That's Peter, acting before thinking, again!" I also don't doubt that it crossed everyone's mind that Peter left them to avoid the hard work of bringing in the fish!

The truth is that Peter had one thing on his mind since the night Jesus was arrested. He knew that he had betrayed Jesus and he carried that weight around like an anchor holding him back from the calling of God. Stripping off his outer garments to swim to shore must have been like dropping the weight of his guilt. As we coach our group on developing and living out a mission from God, we must recognize that many people harbor guilt that hinders them from fully accepting God's commissioning to serve His kingdom.

Before leading your Grow Group, take time to examine your own heart:

Do I feel that God cannot use me in a specific area because of past sins or actions?