

Legend:

- Scripture
- Write on the white board
- Ask Class for Comment
- Important Point
- Very Important Point

1. Intro

1. **Formative Teaching and Family Worship.**
2. Ephesians 6:4b
  1. bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
2. So what do we mean by formative teaching?
  1. Formative:
  2. Developing and not yet completely formed
  3. capable of alteration by growth and development
  4. **\*\*the most fitting definition for this study: having a role in deciding something's final form**
3. We're also going to discuss What is family worship?
4. To do that let's discuss...
5. What is worship?
  1. Noah Webster- 1828- faithful, scriptural, reliable
    1. 1. To adore; to pay divine honors to; to reverence with supreme respect and veneration.
    2. Thou shalt *worship* no other God. [Exodus 34:14](#).
    3. 1. To perform **acts** of adoration.
    4. 2. To perform religious **service**.
  2. Rom 12:1 (Stu spoke of this in week 1)
    1. I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.
6. **Does the bible speak to worship in the family?**
7. Deut 6: 1-9- We plan to learn **what are the elements of family worship and formative teaching in these verses!**
  1. But before we do...What comes before Deut 6?
    1. Moses reminding the children of Israel the 10 commandments
      1. **God speaking** in Deut 5:29 and what I sense is true in this group!
      2. <sup>29</sup> Oh that they had such a heart as this always, to fear me and to keep all my commandments, that it might go well with them and with their descendants<sup>[a]</sup> forever!
    2. Read Deut 6:1-9
      1. "Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it,

2. 2 that you may **fear the Lord your God**, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long.
3. 3 **Hear** therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.
4. 4 **"Hear**, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
5. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
6. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.
7. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.
8. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.
9. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2. Everything begins with the **Fear of the Lord** vs2

1. for the parents and the children
2. What are some words for Fear?(awe, reverence,)
  1. According to the passage, How do we show fear of God? By keeping His commandments
3. **The parents are to be examples to the children**
  1. One of the keys to formative teaching is to be a doer of the word for your children to see!
  2. Prov 13:20
    1. Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.
4. Parenting is the continuous act of children walking with their parents
5. And for how long? All the days of your life- which may be extended as you do these things

3. **Hear the Lord** vs 3 and vs 4

1. we must actively be hearing what the Lord says to us, by the careful study of His word
2. Not just hear, but listen.
  1. Do we ever hear (passive) and not listen (active)? What is the difference?
  2. Pay attention to
  3. Prepare yourself to receive what is being conveyed, or spoken, or read
  4. Burning deep into your soul
  5. how do we move from hearing passively to actively? The Holy Spirit

3. The Lord our God is the one true God. All others are created things that are not god
4. **Love the Lord your God**
  1. \*Verse 5 is a Great verse to begin our memorization with
  2. Love him with every fiber of our being- heart, soul, and might
    1. **Heart**- what drives us, what encompasses us, the emotional aspects
      1. The center of a person's thoughts and emotions
      2. From where comes love, compassion, loyalty, anger, hatred
    2. **Soul**- deepest part of our being, the spiritual, immaterial, the part that never dies
    3. **Might**- our strength, determination
  3. **Where have you heard this before?**
    1. Matt 22:37
    2. Someone please read Mark 12:29, 30-
      1. <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. <sup>30</sup> And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' "
    3. Luke 10:27
    4. 2Kings 23:25- Josiah the King. None like him
5. **The verses in Deut 6 are not "suggestions" like any other self help book**
  1. **Commandments to be on your heart**
    1. As Michael discussed last week- "shepherding the heart"
    2. Listen intently, hear, and do
    3. **write on the white board Command is to do what (give me some related words)**
      1. order, tell, direct, instruct,
    4. **Give me some words or thoughts related to commandments**
      1. there are **benefits** to our life
      2. **warnings** of what not to get into
      3. **guidance** as to what we should do
      4. **understanding** of what the commandment truly addresses
    5. we are present today to receive guidance from God's word so we can know what we are to do in raising our children, and in essence, God's children in whom we are agents
6. **Teach them diligently**
  1. **What's the assumption? it must be that they don't know and we do know**
    1. we must know what God has for our children
    2. We have to study Gods word, to learn, to make it a part of our lives so that we can teach them
  2. What is a **benefit of teaching?**
    1. Teaching helps you determine if you indeed have learned the truth that you are expressing to them
    2. God imparts to you so that you can give to them
  3. It is **not a hobby**

1. teach continually - a 24/7 responsibility
4. Should **flow from full hearts**
  1. Luke 6:45
  2. <sup>45</sup> The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.
5. **Talk of them always**
  1. sit in your house
    1. when do we sit?
      1. meals
      2. family times
      - 3.
    2. walk by the way
      1. Modes of transportation
      2. going for walks
      3. in the car as you go from place to place
    3. when you lie down
      1. putting the kids to bed
    4. when you rise up
      1. sharing the importance of morning quiet time
6. **Bind them as a sign-** I'll leave this to you to determine what you should do
  1. perhaps signs in different parts of the house
  2. was a little easier for us as home schoolers as many parts of the house were used
  3. refrigerator is where we kept the 10 rules of the house
  4. hand
  5. frontlets between your eyes
7. **Write them**
  1. on the doorposts of your house
  2. on your gates
8. **Example of Timothy:**
  1. We see a tremendous example of this in the life of Timothy- Paul exhorted Timothy to remember the “sincere faith” first “lived in [his] grandmother Lois and [his] mother Eunice” (II Tim. 1:5) “As for you,” Paul told Timothy, “continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom [plural] you have learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus” (II Tim. 3:15) (ESV)
9. As Paul Tripp has said, we should be like sponges: when our children “bump” into us, they should become “wet” with God.
7. **Formal Family worship**
  1. scripture does not give definitive method, but does give definitive directive
  2. "anything worth doing is worth doing poorly"

3. As often as possible in a more consistent, formal family setting
  1. Not a command, but a wise action nonetheless
  2. a planned, structured way
  3. Professor Don Whitney:
    1. "Bringing up children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord is not accomplished unintentionally and incidentally. Yes, it should and will happen throughout the day at unplanned, serendipitous occasions (informal family worship), but it should also happen purposefully. Without some regularity and structure and purpose, it is one of those things that we assume we are doing but never actually do. Consistent, father (and mother)-led family worship is one of the best, steadiest, and most easily measurable ways to bring up children in the Lord's discipline and instruction."
    2. Whitney in his books points to historical figures as examples, such as Martin Luther, Matthew Henry, and Spurgeon, to give an historical account of the benefit to Family worship.
    3. Whitney also recommends we go to observe a family doing this and see the dynamics with the interaction, parents (and children's) prayers, how scripture is read, the instruction given. If a family that is all hearts and flowers, observe forgiveness, perseverance of the parents.
    4. Donald S. Whitney, Family Worship: In the Bible, In History & In Your Home 9 (2005).
    5. In short, as Spurgeon put it, "I trust there are none here present, who profess to be followers of Christ who do not also practice prayer [i.e., family devotions] in their families. We may have no positive command for it, but we believe that it is so much in accord with the genius and spirit of the gospel, and that it is so commended by the example of the saints, that the neglect thereof is a strange inconsistency."
4. What are elements of family worship?
5. Reading Scripture
6. prayer
  1. pray for the children by name
  2. pray for friends, church, the gospel, neighbors
7. songs
  1. hymns and smaller fun songs
  2. what is sung in church
8. Spurgeon wrote that, "I agree with Matthew Henry when he says, 'They that pray in the family do well; they that pray and read the Scriptures do better; but they that *pray, and read, and sing* do best of

all.' There is a completeness in that kind of family worship which is much to be desired."

9. bible memory - as a family
10. catechism
11. reading childrens bibles and regular bible
12. lots of proverbs
13. make it fun
14. early years will be different than later years, so be ready to make some changes to the family style of worship
15. children to participate

## 8. Informal Family Worship

1. How do we practically do all of this?
2. Fathers lead their homes
3. Mothers tend to be the more practical outworking of the day- to day instruction
4. What are other ways, forms? SS, VBS, youth groups, camps, meeting with other families.
5. I loved the idea of having my children hear from other adults the same truths I'm teaching them- surrounding them with similar understandings of the truths of the scripture!

### 6. Look for teachable moments

### 7. look for life lessons

1. we had a garden
2. look for life lessons
3. Not just for food but for life lessons
  1. teaching how to work
  2. teaching persistence
  3. toughing out the hot days
  4. diligence, watchfulness for weeds
  5. watering when needed

### 8. Help them see God in everything

9. Nighttime- spend time before they go to bed, perhaps in their room, asking questions, allow them to choose the topic.
  1. It's especially helpful in building
  2. Make it fun!
    1. example- mulching
      1. working as a team
      2. I competed against them to get their minds off the drudgery, to make it fun
    2. my guess is that their greatest memories will not be as much related to the ball field
  3. a rapport that will benefit in teen years
  4. I tried to always answer any question asked as best I could- even the tough ones related to sex

## 9. Conclusion, wrap up:

1. Starts from the earliest age, but all the way through to adult-hood

2. "The toughest job you'll ever love!"
3. Live the truths of Deut 6
4. Call on God for help throughout the process
5. You won't be perfect, **none** are
6. God leads, empowers, directs your steps, corrects, forgives, blesses
7. That it may go well with you