



SESSION 3: FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS AND THE BIBLE: PART 2



IN THIS SESSION

A continued exploration of some considerations for family discipleship found in *The Shema* (meaning “to listen” or “to obey”). We will again examine this Old Testament text and further point to God’s vision for healthy and effective parenting.



KEY PASSAGES

- **Deuteronomy 6:4-9** ⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 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 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
- **Psalms 78:5-7** ⁵ [The LORD] established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, ⁶ that the next generation might know them, and children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, ⁷ so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments



DISCUSS

- The Session noted that the directives of Deut. 6:4-9 are ones of *action*, implying a proactive mentality rather than a passive or reactive approach to family discipleship. Think of areas in your parenting that you feel might presently lack intentionality and purpose. What would it look like for you to use the existing rhythms of your family to infuse a lifestyle of pursuing Jesus together? How would this take shape in “formal moments” (i.e. intentional, planned, and scheduled) within your family?
- What are some “informal moments” (i.e. occurrences in life that are unexpected, unpredictable, and spontaneous) of parenting you have experienced in the past? Share the story of how you responded in that situation. Would you have preferred to react differently and provided a more Christ-like example? In light of your discussion, what might it look like to “plan how you will react” as these “informal moments” appear in the future?
- What are a few biblical truths about God that you want your children to know? Why do you suppose these are so significant to you? Brainstorm how you might set aside time to sit down with your children and communicate important truths about God, us, and the world.



PRAY

- Pray that God would help you identify creative ways to establish intentional “formal moments” in your family rhythm for discipleship. Ask for the wisdom of the Spirit to guide you in your responses to the “informal moments” of life. Praise and thank the Lord for what you have learned and how you have grown as you have walked through this Study thus far!