

WORD 2022

Fathers

Atmosphere – Awareness - Anticipation

Mothers

Investment – Involvement - Interaction

Look Around!

You

ATMOSPHERE OF PREPAREDNESS

Atmosphere – Awareness – Anticipation

- A surrounding influence or environment (Webster Dictionary)
- Do we pray and believe for something beyond the ordinary ???

Raise them up, train them, teach them, empower them

God's Plan - Genesis 18:17-19

Deuteronomy 6:1-13

6 Main Responsibilities

1. Learn. vs. 1-2 "These are the commands, decrees, and regulations that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you. You must obey them in the land you are about to enter and occupy, 2 and you and your children and grandchildren must fear the Lord your God as long as you live. If you obey all his decrees and commands, you will enjoy a long life. The first task we're called to is to learn God's Word for ourselves.

- The word "teach" has the idea of "training in order to be able to do something."
- "You can't impart what you don't carry"

2. Live It. - vs. 3 Listen closely, Israel, and be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

- Live it starts with listening!

3. Love.

- vs. 4 "Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
 - This is the beginning of the Jewish Shema, which literally means, "Hear!" or we might say, "Listen up!" It can also mean "to listen intelligently and attentively; to obey."
- vs. 5 And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength.
 - **"Our primary call isn't to be good parents. Our primary call is to model a vibrant and vital love relationship with the living God."**
- vs. 6 And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today
 - God's Word is not to just be in our heads, but also in our hearts.

4. Lead. vs. 7-9 Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. 8 Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. 9 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

- “every home as a little church”
- Home “the seminary of the church”
- Teaching truth intentionally!
- Talk truth relationally

- Transmit truth practically.

- **The idea is for God’s Word to be so central to your family’s life your kids think about it every time they turn around.**
 - our “hands” represent our actions,
 - “frontlets” represent our thoughts and attitudes,
 - “doorposts” symbolize our homes and “gates” refer to social life outside of our homes.

Scenario - if the children we teach, had only our training for the guidelines for their lives; what would their lives look like?

1. There are seven questions to process with the children to who we minister
 1. Does God exist?
 2. What is the character and nature of God?
 3. How and why was the world created?
 4. What is the nature and purpose of humanity?
 5. What happens after we die on Earth?
 6. What spiritual authorities exist?
 7. What is truth?

2. Four cornerstones needed to help children develop a proper worldview:
 1. The **Bible**
 2. A commanding knowledge of biblical **content**
 3. The identification of organizing **principles** (ability to tie it together vs rabbit trails)
 4. A burning desire to obey **God**

3. The six pillars of Christian formation:

1. **worship**
2. **evangelism**
3. **discipleship**
4. **stewardship**
5. **service**
6. **community**

4. Part of my responsibility as a parent and as a member of The Community of Faith is to expose young children to the **history, the expectations, and the ways of God.**

5. Unless children are shown the **moral and spiritual** implications of their choices, such factors are often overlooked, often resulting in unfortunate or unforeseen consequences.

Proverbs 8:32 Now then, my sons, listen to me; blessed are those who keep my ways. NIV

How can they keep His ways if they are not taught

5. Launch. - vs 10-11 "The Lord your God will soon bring you into the land he swore to give you when he made a vow to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It is a land with large, prosperous cities that you did not build. 11 The houses will be richly stocked with goods you did not produce. You will draw water from cisterns you did not dig, and you will eat from vineyards and olive trees you did not plant. When you have eaten your fill in this land,

- It is easy to take for granted what you don't work for!
- When you're passing the baton it needs to be taken a hold of!
 - Our children need to have a faith that they own and belongs to them!

6. Look Back – vs. 12 “Then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”

- Know where we all have come from!
- Know what HE has done!
- We need to be vigilant or the “things” of life will crowd out the **Giver** of our things.

Deuteronomy 6:20-25 "In the future your children will ask you, 'What is the meaning of these laws, decrees, and regulations that the Lord our God has commanded us to obey?'

21 "Then you must tell them, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with his strong hand. 22 The Lord did miraculous signs and wonders before our eyes, dealing terrifying blows against Egypt and Pharaoh and all his people. 23 He brought us out of Egypt so he could give us this land he had sworn to give our ancestors. 24 And the Lord our God commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear him so he can continue to bless us and preserve our lives, as he has done to this day. 25 For we will be counted as righteous when we obey all the commands the Lord our God has given us.'

Deuteronomy 32:46-47: "Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. For it is no empty word for you, but your very life, and by this word you shall live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess."

- **DON'T FORGET!!!**

What kind of garden do we want to grow in our home?