

- a. **Parents** are called to be the *primary teachers of God's word*. Even when children go to church and Sunday School and attend a Christian school, *the parents still carry the primary responsibility!*
- b. **Note:** Many teachers – *public and private* – do not believe the Bible is true. Unless parents overcome those false teachings, our children will eventually conclude: *The Bible is not true!*
- c. Let us weave God's word and our faith into our everyday lives with: ♦Family devotions, ♦praying at meals, ♦discussing sermons, ♦reading the Bible, and ♦talking about God – His blessings, His forgiveness, His plan for each of our lives (Eph. 2:10), and His guidance when making decisions.
5. **Guide – 6:8:** **Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.** // Even though some Jews literally attach God's word to their bodies, it is **better** when we permit God's word to **guide** our ♦thoughts, ♦decisions, and ♦actions! By doing so, **fathers guide their children** and **set powerful examples!**

6. **Remind – 6:9:** **Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.** // A Christian home should permeate the **truth and love** of God through ♦Bibles, ♦Christian books, ♦displayed Scripture, and ♦family prayers! **Our homes should point everyone to the Christ!**

Conclusion

Why is this topic so vital? Because today, most children who grow up going to church walk away from Christ by their twenties☹. As fathers, we want much for our children, but we especially want them to continue in Christ to the end! Therefore, let us **diligently** and **faithfully** apply **Deuteronomy 6:4-9!**

Let Us Pray: Dear LORD, radically change each of us, *especially fathers and parents*, so that we ♦**sincerely** and **fully** follow Your holy word and ♦be an eternal blessing to others!

Connect With Us

Website: www.BLC7500.com

YouTube and Podcast: "Benefit from the Bible"

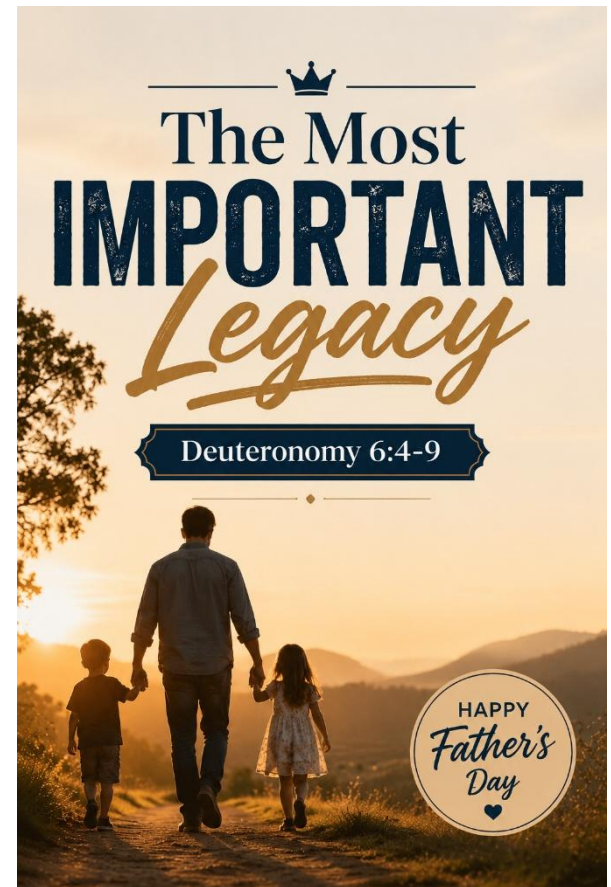
Facebook: "Bethlehem Parma"

Saturdays: Class 3:00; Service 4:00

Sundays: Service 9:00; Classes 10:30

7500 State Road, Parma, OH 44134 / 440-845-2230

(Written: 6-26)



Introduction

Dear Friend: God ♦created two people, ♦instituted marriage, and ♦told them to have children. **The family is God's creation to:**

- ❖ **Teach God's truth!**
- ❖ **Fill the earth!**
- ❖ **Eventually populate heaven!**

At the same time: **The forces of evil are working hard to:**

- ❖ **Stop the teaching of God's truth!**
- ❖ **Eventually populate hell!**

This brochure focuses on some *very important instructions* for all parents, *especially for fathers*. When fathers **rightly understand** and **diligently apply** God's word in their lives, ✦they will be blessed and ✦they will pass on eternal blessings to their **children** and **grandchildren!**

The Sermon Text: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates (NIV). // **Now**, as we look closer at each verse, let's understand this critical division:

- ❖ **Verses 4-6** are vital instructions for fathers (parents)! They **must** be understood and seriously embraced!
- ❖ **Verses 7-9** are a call to specific and ongoing actions from fathers (parents) to their children! They **must** be done **diligently** to pass on God's eternal blessings!

1. **Hear – 6:4: Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.**

- a. **Hear** is the Hebrew word, **shema**; Jewish people refer to today's text as **The Shema!**
- b. **To hear** means *much more* than hearing sounds. It means to
➡listen, ➡pay attention,
➡believe, and ➡live according to God's word!

2. **Love – 6:5: Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. //** God is calling us to **love Him with our entire being!**

- a. **Heart:** When we love God with all our heart, we love Him with
♥what we think, ♥what we desire, ♥what we decide, and ♥what we love!
- b. **Soul:** When we love God with all our soul, ☺we belong entirely to Him, ☺we live for Him, and ☺we are willing to lose everything rather than lose Him!
- c. **Strength:** When we love God with all our strength, we use our strength to ➡serve Him and our neighbors and ➡honor Him with our work and possessions!

3. **Believe – 6:6: These commandments [words of God] that I give you today are to be on your hearts.**

- a. When we think about God's commandments, we tend to think about outward obedience, but **ON YOUR HEARTS** is an **essential inward reality!**
- b. God is calling us to **read** His word, **meditate** on His word, **believe** His word, **love** His word, **remember** His word (by memorizing it), and **do** His word!

Note: We have completed what is **vital** for fathers (parents). They are vital to **save** and **equip** fathers (parents), who can then do what follows to make a **positive** and **eternal** difference in the lives of their children! Fathers do many things for their children, *but nothing is more important than helping them to **know, love, and live God's holy word – as followers of Jesus!***

4. **Impress – 6:7: Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. //** Therefore, let us use every opportunity to teach them God's Word!