

REALIGN YOUR FAMILY

FACILITATOR GUIDE

CPC HAPPENINGS...

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Saturday, March 6, 6 pm Consider attending together with your group! Come, let's worship God together!

MAD OFFERING

Sunday, March 14

This is a once-a-year opportunity for you to make a difference at CPC and around the world! What is God asking you to give? The goal for this year's MAD is \$275,000! We believe God can do impossible math! Be praying for a great abundance!

YOUR FAMILY'S DESTINY

This week's subject is focused on the realignment of our family. Scripture paints a beautiful picture for the family and of God's heart for discipleship at home. The family is God's original small group. Did you know that God has a purposed destiny for your family? He does.

What do you think God desires for your family today? [We know that He wants all your family to know Him and pursue Him with all their might. He wants all your family to at peace. He wants all your family to understand His character and love through living, loving, and doing life with one another.]

Do you tend to put intentional thought into how you represent God to the rest of your family or do you haphazardly go through life in survival mode?

God has an intentional plan for your family, and it begins with this statement:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 —Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 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.

What is the foundational statement in this passage? (The statement you must believe first.) [v5— You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.]

Who in the Bible repeated this same statement? [Jesus]

Mark 12:28-31— And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that He answered them well, asked Him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?” 29 Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 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.’ 31 The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Jesus broke it down into two great commands:

Love **GOD**

Love **OTHERS**

**According to Deuteronomy 6:7, what are we to do with that foundational statement? [v7—
“... teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.” So, talk about God. Freely speak of God/Jesus as a member of your family. “TEACH” is a word of intentionality. When you set out to teach your child a particular skill, you work at it with full intent, because you want them to learn. This passage tells us we should be the same way in regard to introducing our children to God!]**

Consider your current family unit. Currently, your family could exist of a set of parents and some children—you may be the parent or you may be the child. You may have been married at some point, but you no longer are. Or you may have never been married. Families come in all shapes and sizes.

In his message on the family, Pastor “D” made this statement: *“No matter what your family looks like currently, start right where you are now.”*

What do you think he meant by that? [Even if your family unit doesn’t look typical, apply the foundational principles of this Deuteronomy statement to what you have.]

If you are hoping to one day have a wife/husband and hope to one day have children, is it too early to pray for them? (Not just praying to get them, but actually praying for their future, their success, their salvation, etc.)

Psalm 139:5 (NLT)— You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.

Isaiah 45:2 (CSB)— I [God] will go before you and level the uneven places; I will shatter the bronze doors and cut the iron bars in two.

Isaiah 52:12 (CSB)— For you will not leave in a hurry, and you will not have to take flight; because the Lord is going before you, and the God of Israel is your rear guard.

The word **before** isn't just a term of **SPACE**, it is also a term of **TIME**. God is not only with you presently in this moment, He is also ahead of you in your future, preparing the way for you. So you are not limited to only praying for what is occurring now, but you are free to pray for what is in your future!

What are your hopes and wishes for your family?

Do your hopes align up with the things that God desires for your family?

What do you think it means to have a calling *to your family*? [You have a sincere desire to see all your family know Jesus and live for Him. This is seeing your ministry to your family—the family being your mission field.]

Have you ever thought about your *calling as a family*? [What may be the calling God has for your whole family to operate as a ministry to others? Are you doing ministry together as a family?]

DEMONSTRATE YOUR FAITH

Who currently makes up your family unit? [In other words, who do you get together with at Christmas? This is your family sphere of influence. Even if you don't see or hear from them every day or even every week, these people are still your family unit. Although the Deuteronomy passage clearly speaks of teaching the children, sometimes the adult members of our family need to be taught as well.]

A keyword Pastor "D" used in his message was the word DEMONSTRATE.

What does it mean to "demonstrate" something? [To put into action what you believe to be true.]

What are some things that you DO that speaks of your faith in God? [Going to church on Sundays, reading your Bible, praying in front of your family (either before a meal or at bedtime), refusing to do certain things because it would compromise the testimony of your faith in God, etc.]

What are ways that you can teach your children / grandchildren / neices & nephews / others about God / Jesus? [Read Bible stories to them. Talk about God in a way that makes Him a natural part of the family—not some far away God that doesn't care. When an event shakes your family, explain to your children how God is in control and they can place their trust in Him.]

What does it mean to be the “spiritual leader of the household?” **[The spiritual leader of the household is the one who teaches faith to the children. They set the example for the rest of the family.]**

When you were young, did someone take on the role as spiritual leader in your home?

If so, what did they do that impacted you?

If not, do you think your family was hindered in any way by not having that strong voice of faith in their lives?

While you may be old enough to teach others, you are never too old for a spiritual leader in your life as well. Who is your spiritual mentor today?

How often do you speak the name of Jesus in the presence of your family?

Will you commit to make it a daily habit of mentioning Jesus to your family in some way?

DID YOU HEAR ME?

Pastor “D” stressed how the very first word in Deuteronomy 6:4 has a special meaning.

What is the first word? **[Hear]**

The Hebrew word is **SHEMA**.

What did he say is the double meaning of this word? **LISTEN** and **OBEY**

Who is the person you are most likely to tell something to but they won’t really pay attention to what you said? **[Spouse? Kids? Co-worker? Parents?]**

Who are you most likely to “tune out” and not listen to? **[Teacher? Boss? Co-worker? Preacher? God?]**

Note that in Deuteronomy this word “hear” wasn’t meant for the children that were to be instructed, it was written to US—the teachers, the parents. We are to not only hear and agree that it all sounds good, but we are to act on it. We are to DO.

James 1:22—But be doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

God is for your family! And His purpose for your family is to bring Him glory!

PRAYER TIME

- Think about the spiritual influences in your life—both now and when you were young. Thank God for those influencers of your faith. Their influence affects your generations to come.
- Ask God to show you the members of your family that you can impact for Him.
- Ask God to show you creative ways to insert His teachings and into your family life naturally.
- Pray to God for His guidance, considering acts of demonstration that will display your faith.
- Ask for the strength and right opportunities to mention the name of Jesus among the members of your family.
- Pray that God might use your family to function as an army of ministers for Him. Ask Him to show you a ministry your family might participate in together.