

## Family Discipleship

### Passing Wisdom to the Next Generation

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#### Bible Text(s) Used

Proverbs 1:8<sup>i</sup>; Proverbs 3:5<sup>ii</sup>; Proverbs 15:1<sup>iii</sup>; Proverbs 16:18<sup>iv</sup>; Deuteronomy 6:4-9<sup>v</sup>; Psalm 145:4<sup>vi</sup>; Ephesians 6:1-3<sup>vii</sup>; Psalm 112:1-2<sup>viii</sup>. The sermon also draws from the story of Solomon asking God for wisdom.

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#### Summary of Each Main Point

##### Wisdom Begins with a Heart That Listens to God

Pastor Mike opened with the story of Solomon, a young king who felt small beneath the weight of leadership. When God invited him to ask for anything, Solomon did not ask for riches, long life, or comfort. He asked for wisdom—a heart able to discern what is right. That request pleased God because true wisdom is more than intelligence. It is the ability to live under God’s guidance, to speak gently, walk humbly, and choose what honors Him. Proverbs teaches that “the fear of the Lord” is the beginning of knowledge. This does not mean being terrified of God but revering Him as the greatest King and trusting His ways above our own.

**Reflection:** Where do I most need to ask God for wisdom this week—in my home, my words, my decisions, or my relationships?

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##### The Family Is God’s First Place of Discipleship

The sermon reminded us that Proverbs does not begin like a classroom lecture; it sounds like a parent speaking to a child. Faith is meant to be handed down in the ordinary spaces of family life. Pastor Mike pictured the family Bible, filled with names, dates, notes, and memories, as a visible reminder that faith has a history. From Adam and Eve, to Noah, to Abraham, to Jacob and the twelve tribes, God has worked through families to carry His covenant promises forward. Parents and grandparents are not merely caretakers. They are disciple-makers, entrusted with passing the truth, love, and wisdom of God to the next generation.

**Reflection:** What spiritual legacy did I receive, and what spiritual legacy am I helping pass on?

### Passing Faith Is Like Passing a Baton

One of the sermon's strongest pictures was the relay race. A team may have fast runners, but the race can be lost if the baton is dropped in the exchange zone. In the same way, faith must be intentionally passed from one generation to the next. Parents only have a limited season with their children at home. During that "exchange zone," every prayer at the table, every bedtime conversation, every Bible story, every honest talk about the Lord helps place the baton of faith into their hands. This is not about perfection or pressure. It is about faithful, repeated moments that teach children that God is real, His Word is true, and His ways lead to life.

**Reflection:** What simple, repeatable habit could help me pass the baton of faith more faithfully?

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### Discipleship Happens Little by Little

Deuteronomy 6 gives a practical plan for family discipleship. First, parents must internalize God's Word themselves. We cannot pass on what we have not taken hold of. Second, we communicate God's Word diligently, meaning repeatedly and intentionally. Moses describes faith conversations while sitting at home, walking along the way, lying down, and rising up. In modern language, which includes breakfast, bedtime, car rides, family meals, chores, and ordinary questions children ask. Pastor Mike compared discipleship to tending a fire: too much at once may smother it, but steady, faithful feeding makes the flame grow. The goal is not to overwhelm children with long lectures, but to make God's truth part of the rhythm of home life.

**Reflection / Discussion Question:** Where are the natural moments in my daily routine where God's Word could be gently woven in?

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### God Gives a Promise to Faithful Families

The sermon closed with encouragement for weary parents and grandparents. God never calls His people to obedience without also giving promise. Ephesians 6 reminds children to honor father and mother, "that it may go well with you." Pastor Mike explained that this promise is not only about family peace or personal long life; it also points to the survival and strength of God's people across

generations. The future of the church is not secured by politics, culture, or national power, but by faithful believers raising children in the fear and instruction of the Lord. Like orchard farmers, parents may plant seeds whose fullest harvest will be enjoyed long after they are gone. Every prayer, Scripture, conversation, and act of faithful love matters.

**Reflection:** What seeds of faith am I planting now that may bless future generations?

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### Closing Thought

Family discipleship is not a one-time event; it is a life of small, faithful moments. We ask God for wisdom, receive His Word into our own hearts, and then pass it on with patience and love. The harvest may take years to see, but God is faithful. What is planted in faith can keep bearing fruit for generations.

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<sup>i</sup> **Proverbs 1:8**

**Hear, my son, your father's instruction,  
and forsake not your mother's teaching.**

<sup>ii</sup> **Proverbs 3:5**

**Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.**

<sup>iii</sup> **Proverbs 15:1**

**A soft answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.**

<sup>iv</sup> **Proverbs 16:18**

**Pride goes before destruction,  
and a haughty spirit before a fall.**

<sup>v</sup> **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

**Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.  
You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.  
And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.  
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.**

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**You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.  
You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

**vi Psalm 145:4**

**One generation shall commend your works to another,  
and shall declare your mighty acts.**

**vii Ephesians 6:1–3**

**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.  
“Honor your father and mother” — this is the first commandment with a promise —  
“that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.”**

**viii Psalm 112:1–2**

**Praise the LORD!  
Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,  
who greatly delights in his commandments!  
His offspring will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**