

Pass It Down

Part 3

Deut 6:5-9

1. A Pledge of Allegiance (vv.1-4)

e. Hearing Well

f. Milk and Honey

g. The Shema (vv.4-5)

h. Essence and Expression

i. Verse 4 is the claim or pledge, with verse 5 being the practical application of who God is, or the expected response

ii. Covenant love is not about feeling (warm & fuzzies), but obligation--it is what I must do based upon what I believe

iii. God says, based upon who I have been to you and what I have promised to do for you, my call for your commitment of exclusivity should be reasonable

iv. This is the sense we get from Paul in Rom 12:1--
reasonable service

i. Love Identified

i. Heart- (lev) In OT anthropology (Jewish), the heart was the seat of the intellect, similar to the mind in Greek

ii. Soul- The soul (nephesh) was considered the essence of a person and the immaterial aspect of their being; this is the person as person (distinct from all other beings; Gen 2:7), including will and sensibilities

iii. Strength- (*meod*) This is the physical aspect of a person with all functions and capacities

iv. The force of the command is to love God with all essence (who you are) and expression (your capacity) inside and out

(1) Some of us are great at pursuing God intellectually

(2) Others are great at having deep affection for the things of God--we feel deeply convicted about many things

(3) Many still would rather be doing something for God--"don't give me the lectures or the books, I'm not that big on Kumbaya sessions, where is the action?"

(4) The command does not say pick one, but that you are capable of all. You may have an affinity for one more than the others, but God has created each of us with the capacity to love Him and others holistically.

2. An Active Relationship with God (vv.6-9)

a. These verses help us answer the question, "How does one pass down an active relationship with God when you can't serve God for them?"

i. How do we aid in getting the Word of God in the hearts of generations to come?

ii. Knowing that God desires our faith to live beyond ourselves

(1) If we leave our children money only, we have failed God's expectations

(2) If we leave them a great name only, we have failed

(3) Those things are great if we can muster them, but we must leave and cultivate a legacy of faith

(4) Because according to God, that is most important

iii. We pass the commands of God down by making them a core part of daily activity, and not only 2-3 hours a week at church.

b. Levels of Learning

i. Knowledge: is the lowest level of learning and is defined as the ability to recall previously memorized facts; that is, to remember or recognize factual

ii. Comprehension: takes the learner into the domain of understanding; it centers on the meaning of singular concepts

iii. Application: In learning, application means to use a concept to solve a particular problem; “now that I know this, what difference does it make or what problem does it solve?”

iv. Analyzing: involves breaking information down into its component parts, identifying relationships, patterns, and structures

v. Response: is the psychomotor level, which puts the concept into action; this can happen independently or through imitation

vi. Creating: putting elements together to form a new coherent whole; to create a new performance after having developed skills

(1) The goal of instruction is changed behavior, with an understanding of what one is doing (1Tim 1:5)

c. Educational Immersion (vv.7-9)

i. Eugene Merrill says: Teaching in this context has the image of an engraver who takes a hammer and chisel in hand and etches text into a solid slab of granite. While the task may be daunting, once completed, it's there to stay.

(1) God does not send children into the world knowing what to do--they require guidance regardless of how much they think otherwise

ii. Verse 7 highlights the repetition needed, as well as the various postures of life

(1) The Word should be infused in all aspects of life

(2) The goal is to see the world and life through the lens of God's Word

(3) This is the difference between the belief that the Word was written for us as consultation versus the Word written to us for life and godliness

iii. So we should be teaching--don't leave the Lord at the church building on Sunday or Wednesday, take Him with you

“We teach what we know; we reproduce what we are.”

Source: Robert Schmidgall, Leadership, Vol. 6, no. 2.

