

SUMMER

AT

EPIC

Summer at Epic - Part 9 - The Parent's Priority
Pastor Mark Rouse - August 25, 2019

- **The Parent's Priority: To gradually transfer a child's DEPENDENCE from parents and to GOD.**

¹ These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, ² so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live... - Deuteronomy 6:1-2

1) LOVE your God.

⁴ 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. - Deuteronomy 6:4-5

2) Lead your family INTENTIONALLY.

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. - Deuteronomy 6:6-9

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. - Proverbs 22:6

UNCHANGING PRINCIPLES OF PARENTING

- **Loving TOUCH.**

One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them... - Mark 10:13

- **Abundant TIME.**

¹³ ... But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him.

¹⁴ When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children." - Mark 10:13-14

- **Encouraging TALK.**

Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them. - Mark 10:16

WHAT ABOUT PARENTAL PAIN?

The Parable of the Lost Son - Luke 15:11-32

- **Unwavering PRAYER.**

- **Unending PATIENCE.**

"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming..." - Luke 15:20

- **Unconditional LOVE.**

"... Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him." - Luke 15:20