Bringing Your Faith Home Deuteronomy 6 – "The Jesus Creed"

Deuteronomy 6:4 (CSB)

⁴ Listen, Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

This was Israel's pledge of allegiance, their confession, their creed.

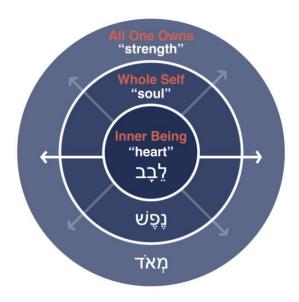
Deuteronomy 6:5 (CSB)

⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

"Heart" (בְּבֶּב, lebab) in Hebrew can be compared to what we consider as the 'mind' or the 'inner person.'

"Soul" (בְּלֵשׁ, nepesh) in Hebrew is literally one's "throat" and is used metaphorically for one's "life" or their entire person.

"Strength" (מָאַד, me'od) in Hebrew is being used here to talk about all that they possess



Deuteronomy 6:6–9 (CSB)

⁶ These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. ⁷ Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. ⁹ Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates.



God wants their allegiance to him to go deeply into their hearts and widely out to their world.

We can tend towards a privatized faith or performative faith.

How to Have an Abiding Mindset:

- 1. They were to repeat them.
- 2. They were to set up signs and symbols.

Matthew 22:34-40 (CSB)

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. ³⁵ And one of them, an expert in the law, asked a question to test him: ³⁶ "Teacher, which command in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷ He said to him, "**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.** ³⁸ This is the greatest and most important command. ³⁹ The second is like it: **Love your neighbor as yourself.** ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands."

JESUS CREED

Follow Jesus and Love Others

Bringing It Home:

- 1. Our faith must be exercised.
- 2. Our faith must be integrated.
- 3. Our faith must be beautifully ordinary.

Deuteronomy 6:20-25 (CSB)

²⁰ "When your son asks you in the future, 'What is the meaning of the decrees, statutes, and ordinances that the LORD our God has commanded you?' ²¹ tell him, 'We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand. ²² Before our eyes the LORD inflicted great and devastating signs and wonders on Egypt, on Pharaoh, and on all his household, ²³ but he brought us from there in order to lead us in and give us the land that he swore to our ancestors. ²⁴ The LORD commanded us to follow all these statutes and to fear the LORD our God for our prosperity always and for our preservation, as it is today. ²⁵ Righteousness will be ours if we are careful to follow every one of these commands before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.'

One beautifully ordinary practice: Tell your kids the story. Share the gospel.

Bibliography and Other Resources:

- Block, Daniel I. *Deuteronomy*. NIVAC. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2012. McKnight, Scot. *The Jesus Creed: Loving God, Loving Others*. Apple Books. Brewster, MA: Paraclete Press, 2004.
- Merrill, Eugene H. Deuteronomy: An Exegetical and Theological Exposition of Holy Scripture. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 1994.
- Powell, Kara E., and Chap Clark. Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011.
- Sacks, Jonathan. Covenant & Conversation: Deuteronomy: Renewal of the Sinai Covenant. New Milford, CT: Maggid, 2019.
- Walton, John H. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament*. First edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2006.
- Woods, Edward J. *Deuteronomy: An Introduction and Commentary*. TOTC. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2011.
- Wright, Christopher J. H. *Deuteronomy*. Understanding the Bible Commentary Series. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1994.