

January 15, 2015

Speaker: Josh Barlow

Text: Various



One of the greatest mission fields you and I are called to is our own homes.

Make the gospel the center of your home.

The Mission of Parenting – John 17:3

V3 – Knowing God is eternal life.

Knowing God means to have a personal, saving relationship with Christ.

Knowing God starts intellectually, but the goal is a personal relationship marked by repentance and faith

App: The goal of parenting is to lead our children to faith in God

D. A. Carson says faith consists of four things:

- A knowledge of God
- A trust in His Word
- A dependence on Him
- A commitment to His ways

Summed up – faith is loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength

What is your goal in parenting?

Success? Health? Your reputation or pride? Well-adjusted? Happiness?

It is not bad to want these things, but they find their proper place under a faithful love to God

So, how can we lead our children to faith in God?

The Missional Family – Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Recap: Deuteronomy is Moses' end-of-wilderness speech

Now they stand on the cusp of the Promised Land, so Moses preaches the law to them again.

V1-3 – Moses reminds Israel that those who obey God's law will be blessed...

V4-6 – ...and that right obedience stems from a love for the Lord...

Faith-driven obedience is what our children need in order to be blessed by God.

V7-9 – Faithfulness is impressed upon children in the home.

App: The home is the center of discipleship

Discipleship is helping someone follow Christ

Schools may tell us what we need to know, but the home is where we learn who we need to be.

Utilize your home life so your kids may know God personally

V7 – Use everything: parents teach through everyday conversations and activities

Sports Friendships/Dating Science class church-life meal times

V8 – Take the lead: Parents are a child’s main example of God and godliness

Family devotionals serving others regular prayer discipline

V9 – Family time: The family is the central spot for discipleship

You can’t manufacture quality time, but quantity of time leads to quality time

Parents, what does your home life teach your kids about God and faithfulness?

Busyness? Purchases? Encourage/Forbid? Priorities? Vacation? Entertainment?

Deeper though, parents, what does your relationship with your kids teach them about God and faithfulness?

Gracious? Self-controlled? Forgiving? Truthful? Wise? Loving? Good?

Deeper yet, parents, what does your relationship with the Lord teach your children about God and faithfulness?

Love Him? Know about Him? Trust His Word? Depend on Him? Commit to His ways?

We can’t disciple our children toward faith in God if we are not faithful to Him ourselves.

The gospel is for parents who have failed... AND for the kids of parents who have failed...

But this is not all the ways our home life can help people to know Christ

The Invitational Family – 1 Thessalonians 2:8-12 and 2 Timothy 1:5-7

When we think “missional family” we may think home discipleship or family mission trip

Home discipleship is an inward-focus and mission trips are an outreach-focus

But the missional family can also have an invitational-focus: Spiritual Adoption

Spiritual Adoption is when a family invites someone into their home life so they would know Christ

The family takes the responsibility of spiritual investment and leadership for someone without it

1 Thessalonians 2:8-12 – Paul shared his life with the Thessalonians to make disciples

V7 - He had the mercy of a mother V11 - He had the instruction of a father

2 Timothy 1:5-6 – Paul shared his life with Timothy to mature his faith

Spiritual Adoption broadens our home ministry past just parents with their children

Teens invite friends over Singles invite others over Couples invite others over

Grandparents invest into your grandchildren