

**Hear; O Israel: The Lord our  
God, the Lord is one**

**Deuteronomy 6:4-9  
July 27, 2008**

# The Vision Of Family Discipleship

Family Discipleship at Glory of Christ Baptist Church exists to *equip parents to disciple their children according to the Biblical revelation of Jesus Christ.*

## 2 Goals

1. A deeper conviction as a church as to why it is so important to have a family discipleship ministry
2. Why households and parenting are so important for the kingdom of God

# Deuteronomy 6:4-9

- Called the Shema
- *Literally, “Hear!”; the opening word and thus the title of a daily Jewish prayer. The words of the prayer are found in Deuteronomy 6:4 : “Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord alone.” The Shema is not only a prayer but a creed of Jewish belief, that God is one, that one is to observe the commandments, and that God will reward those who observe his Torah and punish those who do not observe it. These words are often the first words that Jewish children learn. Many Jewish martyrs recited these as their final words.*
  - *Dictionary of biblical studies . InterVarsity Press*

# How Did Israel Get to this Point

- Here is how it is divided up:
- Genesis = 2600 years
- Exodus 2-4 = 40 years (Egypt)
- Exodus 4-5 = 40 years (Desert)
- Exodus 5 – 19 = 3 months (Exodus and Trip to Sinai)
- Exodus 19-Numbers 10:11 = 1 Year (at Sinai) *Giving of the Law*
- Numbers 11-Numbers 36 = 40 years (Wilderness)
- Deuteronomy = 2 Months/24 hours (outskirts of promised land) *Repetition of the Law*
- 187 Chapters total and 58 are at Sinai and 78 are law/instruction to how to be God's people.

# God's Covenant With His People

- Exodus 19:5-6 *if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.*
- 1 Peter 2:9 *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

# “The Lord Our God, The Lord Is One”

1. He is the Lord, the only true God
2. He is our God
3. The Lord is one
4. His people are to be one

*The way that God's people were to be one was by keeping covenant with him and obeying his laws in the land.*

# By Following His Instruction They Will Prove That...

1. Yahweh is their only God
2. Yahweh is the only True God
3. Their God is worthy to be loved with their entire being
4. Their God loves them and is worthy to be followed as well

# Unless...

God took the initiative and revealed his laws to his people, they would have went on in darkness. The natural inclination of all mankind is idolatry, and God's intervention with his laws would be the basis upon which his people would be called out of darkness and distinguished as the children of light

# This Is The Context...

Of this famous verse:

*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 (verse 7).*

The teaching of your children, our children, in the ways of God will determine whether or not they will worship idols or worship God. They will worship something or someone, and without the ways of God revealed to them they will not bend their knees in adoration to Jesus Christ.

# Summary

1. The means by which the people of the living God are brought out of darkness and out of Idol worship is the word of God. If God would not initiate relationship and reveal his way, man would helplessly go on in some form of idol worship.
2. Parents and the community of faith are commanded to instruct their children in the laws of God so that the kingdom of God will be preserved and perpetuated.

# Conclusion

1. The preservation and perpetuation of the people of God depends very much upon whether or not it is successfully passed on to the next generation
2. This is why family discipleship at Glory of Christ Baptist Church exists to equip parents
3. There is a balance that we need to strike on family emphasis.

## 2 Great Goals

1. To equip parents to understand what their roles are in their families and with their children, and to help them do it well.
2. To work towards creating a community in our church that is devoted to these matters.