

## Personal Evangelism Begins at Home

Something to think about before we begin:

If you were told at work that in a few days you would need to make a presentation to some visitors about a specific aspect of your job, what would you do?

### **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

In our first lesson, we analyzed the first part of this text (vv4-5) as Jesus spoke these words to the scribe who had asked Him about the “most important” commandment. Now let’s look at the rest of this famous section of scripture in relation to the idea of “*evangelism in the home*”:

“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart” [Deuteronomy 6:6]

- In practical terms, where does the power of God’s word first need to take effect?

- In all honesty, are we going to be comfortable speaking with others concerning something we know little or nothing about? (Isn’t this often our *excuse* for not speaking more with others about the gospel?) How can we get God’s word “on our heart” so that we are more prepared to share it with those around us? (consider David’s reflections in Psalm 119:46-47, 97-100 and Jesus’ “observation” in Luke 6:45; see also Philippians 4:6-8)

“You shall teach them diligently to your children” [Deuteronomy 6:7; cp Ephesians 6:4]

- Our children are usually a willing and “captive” audience. They are listening always, whether we realize they are or not. In practical terms, we have ample opportunities to express our faith in God (or, sadly, our *lack* of faith in Him!) at various times and in various occasions throughout the day (“...when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise”). What might be some reasons (*excuses*) for why we do not take better advantage of these opportunities?

- Have you ever heard some young child expressing himself loudly about politics or sports? Can you guess what his parents speak about most often at home - and *the way* that they speak about it? What do you speak of the most at home? How do you speak of the things that are most important to you? What can you do better to convey how important God is to you?

“You shall bind them as a sign on your hand” [Deuteronomy 6:8-9]

- In practical terms, what can we be doing to help us keep God’s word before our eyes and before our children’s eyes more consistently?

### **Genesis 2:18-24**

What are *at least two* reasons God reveals for creating Eve for Adam? [Genesis 2:18]

- According to the Genesis account, at the time Eve was created, Adam had been given only the following commandments from God: "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth" (Genesis 1:28), "The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15), and "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die" (Genesis 2:16-17). In the simplest of terms, what was Eve created to "help" Adam do?

### **1 Peter 3:1-2; Ephesians 5:25-27**

Children are not the only ones present in our homes - some homes may have none, or may no longer have any. What does Peter say is *possible* given the influence of a godly wife?

- In what way should a husband love his wife? What is to be his focus in his love for her?

### **1 Timothy 4:12-14; 5:3, 5, 9-10 (Acts 9:36-39); 2 Tim 2:15; 1 Corinthians 7:32-34**

Of course, not everyone will serve while married. Timothy, Paul, Barnabas - even Jesus - served God and others effectively while being single. In practical terms, what are some of God's blessings that may realistically be more abundant in the life of a single person?

- In all of the examples provided, what is seen as the *focus* in the single person's life?

### **Luke 10:29**

"...And who is my neighbor?"

- In practical terms, who are our *closest* neighbors, what is their *greatest* need, and what can we be doing to help them develop a love for God and a love for the truth?

***May the Lord help us to share the gospel effectively first in our homes!!***