

There's No Place Like Home: Parenting (Raise Disciples)

05/11/2025 - Andy Deane

Whether you're a parent, grandparent, or a spiritual mentor, God's Word in Deuteronomy 6 gives us timeless truths for raising the next generation—not just to behave, but to believe. Today we'll see that parenting is not just about surviving; it's about discipling.

Don't just raise kids—raise disciples.

Deuteronomy 6:1–2:

1 These are the commands... the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe... 2 so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you...

1) Parenting is more than care—it's a calling to shape souls.

- Kids are not your possession; they're your responsibility.
- God's design is generational (2 Timothy 2:2), and grandparents have lots of influence with grandchildren.

2) You're not done when they become adults—grandparents still influence.

Your love for God is your greatest parenting tool.

Deuteronomy 6:3–5:

3 Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you... 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.

1) Remember: Before you're a parent, you're a child of God.

- Loved, led, and adopted into His family.
- View parenting through the lens of God as your Father.

2) You can't pass on what you don't possess.

- Possess right theology (“the Lord is one”).
- Possess real love that transforms you.
- Your love for Jesus shapes your child's love for Him.

Discipleship is modeled more than it's explained.

Deuteronomy 6:6–9:

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.

1) Discipleship is a way of life, not a one-time lesson.

- The word “impress” means to sharpen repeatedly.
- Kids remember patterns, not just big moments.

2) Transform ordinary moments into gospel opportunities.

- Talk while you sit, walk, lie down, and get up.
- Practice “every-moment-holy” parenting during meals, car rides, bed times, and hard times.

3) Fill your home with visible reminders of faith.

- Faith should be seen, not just spoken.
- Live your values—don’t just decorate with them.

Form hearts that see the world like Jesus.

Deuteronomy 6:10–19:

10 When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers...12 be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 13 Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. 14 Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; 15 for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you...16 Do not put the Lord your God to the test as you did at Massah. 17 Be sure to keep the commands of the Lord your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you. 18 Do what is right and good in the Lord’s sight, so that it may go well with you...19...

1) Teach them to be grateful for everything.

- Thank God for daily highs and lows.
- Talk about God’s provision and your continued need for Him.

2) Teach them to be cautious of idolatry and worldly values.

- Christian worldview = values, choices, and worship aligned with God.
- Help them live in the world but not of it.

Anchor their faith in the story of grace.

Deuteronomy 6:20–25:

20 In the future, when your son asks you, “What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws 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 mighty hand. 22 Before our eyes the Lord sent signs and wonders—great and terrible...23...24 So the Lord commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the Lord our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today...25...

1) Don’t just hand them rules—give redemptive reasons.

- Obedience flows from love and gratitude, not just obligation.
- Share your testimony—how God rescued your family.
- Rules make sense in the shadow of the cross.

2) Teach them that obedience leads to flourishing.

- God’s commands are a gift, not a burden.
- Holiness leads to joy, not restriction.

Don't leave trying harder to be the perfect parent. Leave clinging to the perfect Savior. Jesus brings hope to every parenting story—especially the hard ones. Whether you're parenting prodigals, grieving losses, or starting again, Jesus invites you to join His mission of discipleship.

For all of today's resources that were mentioned, please text PARENTS to (951) 425-4425.