# Developing a Biblical Family Culture 5: Leave a Legacy

**Hennie Swart** 

What is culture? A culture is a way of life of a group of people--the behaviors, beliefs, values, and symbols that they accept, generally without thinking about them, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next.

Listen, Learn, Love, and Leave a Legacy

### **Deuteronomy 6:5-9**

A: And these words that I command you today shall be in your heart. B: You shall teach them diligently to your children, B1: 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. A1: You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes (head). C: You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

#### Parents are teachers

"You shall teach them diligently to your children..."

- The extent to which we are diligent to learn God's Words will determine the extent to which we are diligent to teach them to our children.
- Only what truly comes from our hearts will touch their hearts.
- "Anyone can learn anything at any age in some form." - unknown
- Let us not abdicate our responsibility to teach our children to theirs schools - we as parents are their primary teachers.



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#### Where to Communicate

...talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way.
Create together-time: "when you sit in your house" implies that you must actually sit down together as a family - not just TV.

- In order to talk together you must first read together, e.g. reading from Mark's gospel yesterday.
- "when you walk...": we often travel together, esp. in Joburg.
- Kirsten's response to Luke 10:38-42

#### Where to Communicate

Planned and unplanned occasions:
 e.g. if you see a rainbow



 If God's Word is not in your heart you'll miss most opportunities to impart it to their hearts.

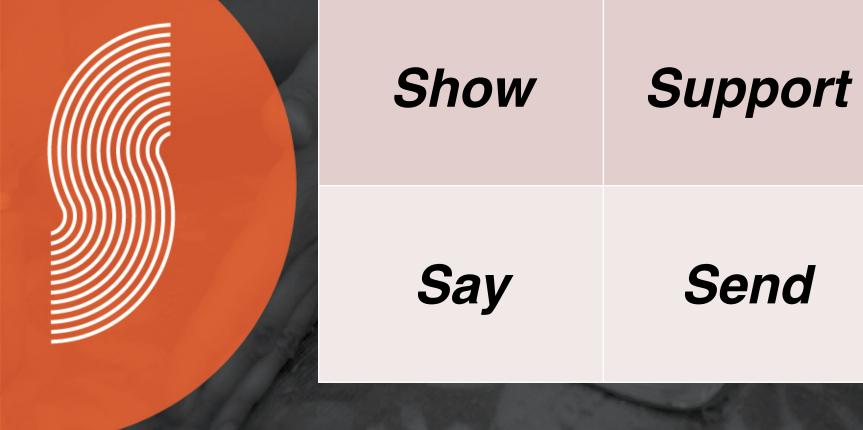
When to Communicate ...talk of them ...when you lie down and when you rise. Merism: the end and beginning of the day and everything in between. The Jewish day was from evening to morning. Help your children begin and end their days with God's Word so they can plan and evaluate everything by it.

## Hands/Heads they can Imitate

 What we do (hands) betrays our thoughts (head) and values (heart), e.g. girls life-long memory of cash register.

If what we do contradicts what we say, we lose credibility and our children won't believe us: "Who you are is shouting so loudly I can't hear what you're saying."
They don't require perfection, just sincerity and humility.





#### Conclusion

 God's Words should saturate our speech, actions, and thoughts.

 Diligence to learn God's Word results in diligence to teach it.

 Create and use regular together-time to teach God's Word through communication and imitation.