

Title: Developing a Biblical Family Culture
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Introduction

- What influence has your family had on your life?
- Many of our most formative experiences are unplanned and happen as part of family habits or culture.
- What are the things families do without thinking?

Deuteronomy 6:5-9⁵ “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.⁷ 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.⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

- "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one."
- The Jewish 'Shema'.
- The meaning of 'echad' (Gen 2:24) and 'Elohim' (Gen 1:26)
- The divine 'family' - the model for our families.
- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."
- 'The best thing you can do for your children is...'
- Our relationship with God is the source for all our other relationships.
- Your obedience will flow from love or...
- If you love God you will love those He loves.
- "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children,"
- Show, don't just tell: The power and challenge of modeling Christianity.
- 'Only what is truly in *your heart* will touch theirs.'
- Most things in family are caught, not taught.
- "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."
- Comprehensive coverage of your life.
- When you're in and when you're out, when you begin and when you end.
- Culture creation around the table, bed, and travels.
- "You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."
- Not external 'phylacteries' like the Pharisees.
- Consecrated thoughts and actions.
- An outward family focus.

Conclusion

- So much of family life happens around routine, habits, and culture that we don't consciously think about.
- Don't let your family culture happen by accident!