

appnotes

DAY 1 READ DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9

1

What does it take to pass on our faith to the next generation? Is it the number of times you get them to a church that makes it stick? Is it reading the Bible together every night? Is it praying at every meal? Today's passage teaches us that passing on our faith doesn't have to be complicated. First, we need to have a sincere faith of our own. We can't give away what we don't have. So give your own faith the attention it needs to grow. Then, let that spill over into every area of life. Talk to your children about God during down time, drive time, and meal time. Let your view of God inform what you say when they fail and when they succeed. Let the God you worship on Sunday invade your every day. What they see in your life will steer where they go.

DAY 2 READ JOSHUA 24:1-15

2

It's called drawing a line in the sand; a moment in time when you make a solemn vow to live one way and not another. It is striking out in a direction from which you will not turn back. In today's passage, Joshua speaks to the people at such a time. We all have to make the same decision. There comes a point in everyone's life where they must choose who will call the shots. It is so cool that the actions of God are mentioned twenty times in fifteen verses. It's obvious that God's loving pursuit is the basis for our obedience. In your life and in your home, who is the boss? Is it the kid's activity schedule, the pursuit of pleasure, or is it something greater? The choice is yours.

DAY 3 READ MATTHEW 19:13-15

3

Christianity isn't just for grown-ups! Little children have a way of teaching us a lot about following God by their pure faith. Jesus always raised the significance of children in a culture that belittled children (see Matthew 18:1-14). So, when the disciples thought Jesus was too busy to pray for the little children, he had other ideas. The One who spoke the universe into existence got down on one knee and spoke with children. He even prayed for all of them before leaving. They were not an afterthought, they had His full attention. It is impossible to follow Jesus and not grow to care about what He cares about. Jesus valued young people. We should do everything we can to make church a place where kids and students are loved. Because when we do, they will love to keep coming back.

DAY READ PSALM 78:1-7

4

Have you ever listened to the echo of the sea from a seashell? That's what we do by passing on the story of God from generation to generation. It is true that God's story started before us and will continue after us. Our Savior sought us, won us, and sticks with us. God's love is the ocean, and our individual stories carry the echoes of that love into the world. Only you can share the special things God has done in your life with the people around you. Take the time to jot down the five biggest things God has done in your life and then share them with the next generation. Watch their faith grow as you share the last minute rescue, the amazing answer to prayer, the big turnaround, or the longstanding faithfulness of God. Your stories are the echoes of the great ocean of God's grace.

DAY READ 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10

5

What are you like when someone wakes you up in the middle of the night? In today's passage, Eli's sleep was interrupted three times by a young boy named Samuel. Samuel would one day become a powerful messenger of God. But on that night, he didn't recognize the voice of God (1 Samuel 3:7). Instead of getting irritated, Eli turned the interruption into a moment of instruction. He took the time to help the next generation learn to hear the voice of God. Even though Eli didn't have all the answers he chose to make himself available. Who are the young people in your life? Are you available to help them reach their potential?

AppNotes are available on our Facebook page, Monday-Friday.

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