

Texts: (Genesis 4:1-7) Deuteronomy 6:4-25

Genesis 4 introduces us to the first, 2nd generation of a family, and already there are some resisting following God and some choosing to follow God. What can we learn from the broader context of the Torah about passing genuine faith to the next generations?

Deuteronomy 6:4-6 – Pursue and pass on a wholistic faith in Jesus

- Spend quality time with the Lord yourself, engaging your mind, body, and heart.

Deuteronomy 6:7a – Talk about Jesus often

- YouVersion Bible studies together, reading a kids Bible to little ones (We recommend The Jesus Storybook Bible); Develop verses that you memorize and recite regularly together (situation specific); Share what you are learning about Jesus; Talk about how you see Jesus working in other people's lives

Deuteronomy 6:7b – Talk about Jesus in the natural flow of life

- Ask questions about what Jesus' teachings say about daily life situations; Look for teachable moments in everyday life situations.

Deuteronomy 6:8-9 – Keep the teachings of Jesus visible and tactile

- Notes in lunches; pictures/quotes/verses around the house; Play worship music in the background

Deuteronomy 6:10-12 – Teach them gratitude

- Use mealtimes to talk about how you have seen God provide; Invite them to participate in giving

Deuteronomy 6:14-15 – Identify and discuss the gods of our culture

- Ask good journalist questions (who, what, where, when, why, and how); Discuss the messaging you see in the media and in stores

Deuteronomy 6:20-25 – Teach them the Gospel

- Talk about your faith journey (How you came to faith in Jesus, how your life is different, what God is teaching you); Talk about the difference between the good news of Jesus and religion or moralism; Talk about why you do what you do (motivation is an important distinction)

How might I get involved in our NextGen Ministries?

Pray: Lay down any distractions, control, fears, etc. that will keep you from fully engaging in your time together.

Looking Back: (For many groups who haven't met consistently over the summer, there will be much to catch up on.)

Were there any significant life happenings since we met last?

What has God been teaching you over the summer? How have you been actively pursuing growing in Him?

Is there a particular sermon from this current study that has been helpful or challenging to you? Tell us about what God has been doing in you through that sermon.

Looking up:

This past Sunday's text was Deuteronomy 6:4-25. Which part of those verses speaks most to you now? Why?

How did this sermon press you into prayer? What did God show you in prayer?

Looking forward:

As we begin life groups, are there any ways that you sense God wanting to grow you in learning to love God, love others, and make His love known to those around you? How can we pray for you?

Prayer: How can we be praying for one another? How can we be praying for those in our lives who are far from God but near to us relationally?