



## Seeking God's Blessing for our Kids

Sunday, May 3, 2020



TALK  
ABOUT IT

- How has this time at home challenged you to grow in your faith?



PRAYER

**Deuteronomy 6 contains one of the foundational prayers and declarations in the Bible. It's a prayer that expresses who God is and calls us to action to share who He is, starting in our families. Take a minute to pray through Deuteronomy 6:4-9 out loud together, and then pray in your own words.**

### **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

“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. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 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. 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.”

*(more on the next page)*



## SERMON + WORSHIP

**Watch Sermon, Worship and Take Communion Together**  
*(reminder, it's easiest to watch it from the YouTube playlist)*



## TALK ABOUT IT

- **Pastor Jeff starts off by talking about God's blessing. Most commentators loosely define blessing as a pronouncement of God's favor. Do you think God's blessing is primarily about material gifts or about our relationship with Him? Why?**
  - Read Numbers 6:22-26. How does this inform the way you think about God's blessing?
- **In Mark 10, Jesus makes a point: We must have child-like faith. What does child-like faith look like and why is it harder for adults to have it than children?**
- **It's okay that you are not the perfect parent. None of us are perfect, and we all need God's grace. Why is it so hard to ask for forgiveness, especially from your children? What does God teach us when we admit our failures?**



## PRACTICE POINTS

- **Pastor Jeff saved the best for last- To lead our children to Jesus, we have to be headed there first. What rhythms can you use to help you grow in your relationship with God:**
  - Set a family devotion time this week and read the Bible together as family.

- Use the 'practical tips for leading your kids to Jesus' tool.
- **Pray for your kids, because ultimately only God can transform their hearts. If you don't have kids, pray for those in your life who do, we are all in this together!**
  - Use the 'prayer for kids' tool attached for some ideas of what to pray.



## Continuing Study for the Week

*These prompts can be used one-per-day or for an extended time on your own, with your spouse or family members, or with your small group:*

- **What blessings look like can be a confusing subject. Sometimes the Bible makes it seem like blessings can be material, but in other cases, they are spiritual. How do you understand God's blessings?**
  - The Old Testament particularly has a lot of promises of material blessing. Read Deuteronomy 28. Do you think these blessings and curses still hold true for today? Why or why not?
  - To go back even further, God promised to bless all people through the line of Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3. How did this promise of blessing come true?
  - Now read Galatians 3:7-14 and Ephesians 1:3. How does the New Testament change the way you think about material and spiritual blessings?
- **Deuteronomy 6:4-9 contains the Shema, the foundational prayer for Jewish people in Jesus's day, and still a foundational prayer for us today. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9.**

- The title of this prayer comes from the very first word in it. The Hebrew word for 'hear' is 'sh'ma'. And that word goes beyond just hearing with your ears- It means to truly hear, listen, pay attention to, and obey. How can we sh'ma (or truly hear) what God declares in this prayer?
- The Shema starts with a foundational declaration of who God is. Why are those two statements ('The Lord our God, the Lord is one') foundational to what we believe about God?
- In Mark 12:28-34, Jesus declares this is the most important commandment. Why do you think Jesus placed higher value on this command than others? (see also Matthew 22:40)?
- In our culture, we are often taught not to indoctrinate our children with our beliefs. How do Deut. 6:7-9 and 6:20-25 command us to teach our children our faith?