

Week of November 17th, 2019 - Discussion Questions for Ohana Groups
Building Tradition in the Family Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Matthew 7:24-29

Overview

Building family traditions nurture self/family identity, solidifies family bonds, and cultivates strong values. In a culture that tends to undermine the importance of family unity, how can we grow strong Christ-centered family traditions?

ICEBREAKER

How does your family celebrate Thanksgiving?

BIBLE: Read *Deuteronomy 6:4-9*

1. These verses constitute the foremost text in Judaism called the *Shema* (lit. "Hear"). It is one of the texts recited every day in Judaism. Recite this passage together as an Ohana.
2. What is the necessary corollary to "hearing" God's Word? (see Deut 5:27, 5:33) Why is this important?
3. How important is the Shema to Jesus? (see Mark 12:29-30)
4. Is our love for God merely a feeling or sentiment or that which commands our entire personality? Why?
5. In verse 7, "to impress" literally means to repeat (it can also mean "engrave"). What ways can we "impress" or "repeat" God's Word in our families?

BIBLE: Read *Matthew 7:24-27*

1. What is the solid foundation on which we are to build-up our family? Why is this important, especially during times of trial?

APPLICATION

Families who make a place for traditions in their routines and rhythms of life can encourage lively family discussion on topics like faith and relationships, strengthen family relationships, and create warm and meaningful memories. Share some of the traditions you practice in your family. What is one kind of tradition you can adopt in your family that is Christ-centered? (ex. Praying before meals, weekly family nights, holiday traditions, service projects)

[Please email Pastor John Barrow your "traditions" so we can share with one another what our families do to put Christ central in our homes!]

PRAY

Pray that your family can develop strong traditions that cultivate unity, love, and identity. Pray that our traditions are not just a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (Rom 14:17).

Got questions or need help? Call or Email John Barrow
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