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# PARENT TALK

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## Week 3: Alicia Frick

**“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..” Deut. 6:4-7**

**As the Israelites stood on the brink of entering the Promised Land, Moses gathers them together to recall “all the Lord had commanded them.” He begins by reminding them of the Great God they serve and commands they honor Him alone by devoting their heart, soul and strength to Him. Moses explains to each one gathered that loving the Lord meant to treasure and follow the commands the Lord had given, adding the responsibility they were to “teach them diligently to your children.” Moses instructs families they were to be constant and intentional in repeating the truths about who God was, what He had done and what He had commanded to their children. This repetitive teaching of God’s Word and Truth was to be woven into the everyday fabric of family life; when the woke up, when they traveled from place to place, and as they lay down at the end of the day. Surely, just as today, distractions were constant, else Moses would not have needed to issue this command! In a world full of distractions, how can we recognize the everyday opportunities to guide our children to Scripture and Christ?**

- 1- Be diligent in your own study of God’s Word. We must be studying, meditating and feasting on God’s Word for ourselves so we will be prepared to share it with our children. Recognize your own tendencies to allow distractions to interfere with this time and ask the Lord to “turn your eyes from looking at worthless things” (Psalm 119:37) and ask the Lord to continue to grow and increase a love and desire in you for His Word.**
- 2- In the same way Paul prayed for the Ephesians, ask the Lord to “enlighten the eyes of your heart” (Ephesians 5:18) to be sensitive to how you can share Christ and His character with your children in everyday conversations and moments.**
- 3-Moses reminded parents to teach their children “when they traveled from place to place.” Often so much of our time is spent in the car (excluding this current season) traveling to the next activity. It is easy to allow electronics and other distractions to intrude on this time. Seek to redeem this time together with God’s truth. Listen to praise music or a bible passage, practice memory verses, share what the Lord is teaching you, ask your children how you can be praying for them or who they would like to be praying for and why.**
- 4- Paul encourages the Philippians to “not be anxious for anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:6) Consistently model this for your children by praying together for the everyday concerns and events within your family. Make sure to recognize and praise God together as He is revealed in answered prayers.**
- 5- Carve time out of your schedule for family devotions. Spend time in God’s Word as a family, learning and pursuing Him together. First Irving Kid’s Ministry has resources to help guide this time, if needed.**
- 6- Finally, add a time to connect with each of your children at bedtime allowing for them to share about their day, being prepared to encourage and remind them of ways Christ was faithful or made known through the day and end by praying with them.**