“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 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. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Coaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Devotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Ask Better Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Kids Led Devotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FAITH STARTS AT HOME

Congrats on deciding to take on this route for you and your family. As on any journey, many people have different experiences, understandings, and speeds of travel. None of that is as important as the direction you are moving. We want to help. We are like the guy at the gas station. We want to help refuel you and your family, reassurance that you are heading in the right direction, give you some good directions until the next stop, and give you a few snack ideas along the way.

On MONDAY we want to help chart the route that we will take during the week. We want to offer some videos that will be informative and sometimes entertaining. We will find some additional links to books articles, or videos that might be helpful. We may even offer little bits of insight to pass on as you are on route this week. You can do this!

Every TUESDAY we will introduce your family to the subject that you will be finding moments during the week to discuss. You want to shoot for 10-15 minutes. This doesn’t have to be a sit-down bible study, as much as a note card to guide discussion about something that you might not have considered that week. We want to set you up for success, make you the expert, the conversation initiator for a topic that we hope will continually be found in your family’s discussion for the week.

On WEDNESDAY we want to teach you to ask better questions. There are many types of questions and the ways that we ask, the words that we use, and the time that we give to think often determine the responses or lack of response that we give to one another. Take time to rethink the way we ask questions and choose to ask better questions.

THURSDAY is the day that we find out if our discussions are paying off. This is the day that your family will teach you. They can put together a 5-10-minute lesson as if it was the first time you have ever heard it. They can be creative and do skits, sing songs, role play. They can just explain like they are trying to tell a friend how to get to their house. When we are able to reteach, we display real understanding.

Finally, FRIDAY will be a fun day. We will give some activity ideas that will support what you’ve been learning all week. There may be times where these take a few minutes, some may take hours. Some may take place at home, some at the church, or somewhere adventurous. We will give you all the ideas for the supplies you need to create family memories. It will be through those moments where you will experience closeness and connection, where the investment you put in during the week, pays off for the weekend. This is where you put into practice real discipleship, as “God’s Word” and “as you walk” cross paths.
**Verse of The Week**

“Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God, the LORD is one.⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ 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. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.  

*Deuteronomy 6:4-9*

**Coaching**

Deuteronomy 6 tells us that we are to teach our children about God all day, in everything we do and say. Parents are the best spiritual mentors for their children. We know that a parent has the responsibility to lay the foundation for faith so that a child can respond to Christ. The preschool years are very important in the psychological and spiritual development of children. A child’s first glimpse at faith comes not so much through words and concepts, but through experiences. Families, look at your week and find 10 minutes each day to spend as a family reading God’s word and praying together. In today’s world we seem to be time starved and it seems impossible to add anything else to our schedules. This pandemic and quarantine has shown us that we can be slowed down, and yet we still have to be intentional about the things we really want to do. Check out encouraging words by Dr. Reavis @ njbc.org/fdr

**Devotion**

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9 together as a family. This scripture passage tells us we are to love the Lord our God and put Him first. What does that mean? How do you show love to each other? Spending time with each other, talking to each other, and sharing with each other. How can we show God we love Him? We are to love Him with our heart, and soul and strength. At an early age we are already passing on things to our children. They are watching and learning from everything they see and hear. What is important to parents can become important to children.

We must be growing in our love for God and His Word to pass on a vibrant faith. We cannot pass on something we do not have. Christian faith is about a relationship with God and not keeping a bunch of rules. It has been said before, “faith is caught more than it is taught.”

Learn Deuteronomy 6:4-5 this week as a family. Our kids need spiritual ammo to get through life. The Bible is our sword. Scripture memory might sound OPTIONAL, but it is essential to run the race. A preschool child can learn the ABC’s, sometimes as young as 2 years old. So, scripture memory is possible too. Sometimes you can put the verse to music to learn it. There are still verses that I learned as a song that I still “sing” when I read it in my Bible. Pray together as a family. Preschoolers can learn by simply hearing us pray that prayer is simply talking to God. Show them that you can pray anytime, anyplace, and with your eyes opened or closed by simple thank you prayers or pausing to intercede for a preschooler’s concern. Keep your prayers short and genuine.
### Ask Better Questions

Think about these questions as you go to the midweek service tonight: What is the best part of Big Church? Who was the preacher today? Draw a picture of the tonight’s preacher.

Questions for the week: What is your favorite Bible story. Why? Why do you think God made the sky blue?

### Kids Led Devotion

Kids learn by doing. Let them be involved in this each week. Your preschooler cannot read you the verses we discussed this week. But she can sing a song she learned in choir or Sunday School. When I was a child Dad read the Bible, Jeanie and I sang songs. Sometimes it was a song we heard at church. Sometimes it was a song we sang in children’s choir. Once we put music to a Bible verse and wrote our own song. You might start by asking your preschooler to tell you his favorite Bible story. Let him tell it to you in his words. Encourage them to tell you the Bible verse for the week.

### Family Time

This week’s verse reminds us we are to love God with all of our heart, soul and strength. One way we show God we love Him is by listening to His word and obeying Him. We show our parents we love them by listening to them and obeying them.

Play a fun game of Simon Says.