

Raising Church – Deut 6:4-25

Community Group Curriculum

5/1/2011

Community Group Leader Instructions:

In preparation for the following group discussions and the use of the provided material, take a few moments to read through the instructions below.

Before the Group Meeting

1. Spend time engaging the “Passages for Study” with prayer.
2. Read through all the material.
 - a. As you look through it, you will find helpful tips in the “Leader Guide” section that will allow you to better facilitate the discussion.
2. Think through ways you can help your group apply what is being taught instead of simply knowing what’s been taught.
 - a. Write down two or three ideas.

At the Group Meeting

1. Summarize the “Introduction.”
 - a. You may read the “Introduction” aloud if that is helpful.
2. Assign readers for the passages outlined in the “Discussion Questions” section.
3. Walk your group through each question (or the ones that time permits).
Use the “Leader Guide” to help facilitate the discussion.
4. Summarize the “Review & Reflection” section. You may read this section aloud if that is helpful.
5. Share your thoughts on how you and your group can begin to apply what was learned in this lesson. Help them formulate ideas for reading, studying and meditating on the Scriptures.
6. Share with your group the resources from the “Keep Digging Deeper” section.
7. End in a time of prayer. Praying that God would strengthen you to obedience, increasing your depth of life and experience of Him.

The Hope:

Our hope is to emphasize the natural attributes of gospel transformation: new life and proclamation. This transformation is exemplified throughout the scriptures in various forms of teaching, preaching, and proclaiming. As the Church, it is our job to proclaim this message within our body and to the coming generations.

Introduction:

God has given us instructions for how we are to live so that we can pass on the knowledge of his grace in our lives from one generation to the next. This week our discussion will focus on what it looks like to live out Godly living in our closest community... our family.

Questions:

Do you see the salvation and instructing of your children in the faith as your responsibility or that of the church?

1. **Parents:** What would you want to change in the way you’ve raised your children?

W/O Children: How would you change the way you will raise your children from the way you

were reared?

1a. What Bible verse(s) support you in this?

1b. If you're without children at the moment, biblically, what is shaping the vision you have for your children?

2. **Parents:** What are you grateful for that you wouldn't want to change in what you've instilled in your children by your example?

W/O Children: What characteristic(s) do you consider most important to instill in your future family or in the present future generation in our body?

2a. What Bible verse do you have that supports this?

2b. What example have you set for your children that you most regret?

3. Deuteronomy 6:6 says these commands *shall be on your heart*. What do these verse say also compete for the affections of your heart?

Leviticus 19:17 _____

Duet. 8:2 _____

Duet. 8:17 _____

Pr. 6:25 _____

Obadiah 1:3 _____

Zec. 7:10 _____

Acts 5:4 _____

Luke 16:13 _____

3a After looking at these verses, what would you say is competing for the room in your heart?

4. What examples are commanded of us in these following Scriptures?

Hint-*Show Godliness*

2 Corinthians. 11:30 : _____

1 Tim 5:4 : _____

Titus 2:7 : _____

Titus 3:2 : _____

James 3:13 : _____

4a. Where have you excelled at these points and where have you fallen short on them this week?

5. What do these verses command us to do with our tongue?

Hint-*Speech or conversation*

2 Corinthians 6:7 _____

Colossians 4:6 _____

1 Tim 4:12 _____

Titus 2:8 _____

5a Which one of these verses is the hardest for you to live out? How do you see that changing?

6. Looking at the following verses, what should our actions be accomplishing?

Example: *Building the body of Christ*

1 Cor 12:12 _____
Romans 14:19 _____
1 Cor 14:12 _____
Eph 4:12 _____
Eph 4:29 _____
Jude 1:20 _____
1 Thess 5:11 _____

7. How would you sum up the whole of this sermon and study for you, your family, and SHEC?

Passages for Study by topic:

Deut 6:4-25

Jer 20:9

Luke 24:31-32

Matt 9:30-31

Luke 1:44-45

Mark 7:36

Matt 15:30-31

[See questions above for more passages\

Review and Reflection:

In review of this topic, let's again take a look back at Deuteronomy 6:4-8:

4 "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.

It starts with our loving and cherishing our Lord. This is followed by teaching, talking, displaying (binding) and writing that message of love everywhere we go. Specifically, we are to exemplify what God has done for us to the generations that follow us so they will never forget.

Memory Verses:

Ezra 7:10

For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.

Leader's Guide:

Do you see the salvation and instructing of your children in the faith as your responsibility or that of the church? Godly instruction from community is advantageous for anyone who receives it. However, the rearing of a child is ultimately the parent's responsibility. How to do we do that? It is not like we can just *will* our children into salvation or command them to love God. Salvation is an act of God, and is best shared through our example. The greatest thing we can do for our children is to love God with our whole heart; and through our lives illustrate what grace, love and kindness look like. This will draw our children to God. It is not enough to drop them off at youth group on wed nights; we need to live out our walk and share the joy we have found in Christ.

1. Parents: What would you want to change in the way you've raised your children?

[Personal Response – see next comment]

W/O Children: How would you change the way you will raise your children from the way you were reared? Look back at your childhood, what things were exemplified poorly to you?

1a. What Bible verse(s) support you in this? [Vary with answers above]

1b. If you're without children at the moment, biblically, what is shaping the vision you have for your children? There are many things we can desire for our children. But ultimately, the greatest hope we can have for them is to "...love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" as spoken by Jesus in Matt 22:37b. This should shape our vision for our children's future, more than riches or glory or fame.

If you don't have children, consider the fact that there are kids around us all the time who need this instilled in them. We are constantly surrounded by neighbors, nieces and nephews and children's program at school or church...many children who need to hear this message and see it exemplified. It is a good idea to start developing this vision in your life, as a goal to share with the children around you.

2. Parents: What are you grateful for that you wouldn't want to change in what you've instilled in your children by your example? [Personal Response]

W/O Children: What characteristic(s) do you consider most important to instill in your future family or in the present future generation in our body?

[Personal Response – see answer to previous question]

2a. What Bible verse do you have that supports this? [Vary with answers above]

2b. What example have you set for your children that you most regret?

[Personal Response]

3. Deuteronomy 6:6 says these commands *shall be on your heart*. What do these verses say also compete for the affections of your heart?

Leviticus 19:17 – hatred in our hearts (for our brother or neighbor)

Duet. 8:2 - pride (God was humbling them during the 40 years to see if they would keep his commandments)

Duet. 8:17 – Pride (Thinking that their riches were achieved on their own.)

Pr. 6:25 – The pursuit of woman (in context it is the pursuit of adultery)

Obadiah 1:3 – Pride (the Edomites thought they were untouchable in their dwelling)

Zec. 7:10 0 – Evil (against one another in our hearts)

Acts 5:4 – Lying (Ananias and Sapphira lied about the cost for which they sold their land)

Luke 16:13 – Money (No man can serve two master)

3a After looking at these verses, what would you say is competing for the room in your heart? [Personal Response]

4. What examples are commanded of us in these following Scriptures?

Hint-*Show Godliness*

2 Corinthians. 11:30 - Boast in things that show our weakness

1 Tim 5:4 - (Widows) Show Godliness to their household

Titus 2:7 - Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works

Titus 3:2 - to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

James 3:13 - show good conduct in meekness of wisdom

4a. Where have you excelled at these points and where have you fallen short on them this week? [Personal Response]

5. What do these verses command us to do with our tongue?

Hint-*Speech or conversation*

2 Corinthians 6:7 - by truthful speech, and the power of God;

Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

1 Tim 4:12 - Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

Titus 2:7-8 - Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, 8 and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

5a Which one of these verses is the hardest for you to live out? How do you see that changing? [Personal Response]

6. Looking at the following verses, what should our actions be accomplishing?

Example: *Building the body of Christ*

1 Cor 12:12 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

Romans 14:19 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

1 Cor 14:12 - So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.

Eph 4:12 - ...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

Eph 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Jude 1:20 - But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

1 Thess 5:11 - Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

7. How would you sum up the whole of this sermon and study for you, your family, and SHEC? [Responses will vary... but should be centered on the responsibility we have to live out the grace and love we have been shown in our lives. Remembering what God has done for us and sharing that with the generations who follow, will insure that our children have the opportunity to grow in the knowledge of Christ. It is not our job to save the next generation, but it is our job to experience, speak and act out the salvation we have received so that it is displayed for all to learn from.

Resources to keep Digging Deeper:

☐ Get Help: <http://shec.net/connect/contact>

☐ Get Connected: <http://shec.net/connect/community>

- ❑ Become a Member: <http://www.shec.net/membership>
- ❑ Get Serving: <http://shec.net/connect/volunteer.html>