

## Building a Legacy

### MONDAY STUDY

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-5 and answer the following questions:

- *Why do you think Moses began by reminding the Israelites that these were God's instructions, not his own?*
- *According to verse 2, what does it mean to fear God? How well do we, as believers, adhere to this command?*
- *According to this passage, what promises are made for the person who follows God's law? Do you believe those promises still apply today?*
- *What does the phrase "be careful" mean in verse 3? What are the consequences if we aren't careful in this area?*
- *Is it difficult to follow God's commands? Why?*
- *If you had to give yourself a grade on how well you personally follow verse 5, what grade would you get? Why?*
- *What obstacles/dangers would the Israelites face after Moses' death? (enemies, deceit, idolatry, difficulty of conquering the promised land, quarreling, etc.) What words of wisdom would you have said to the Israelites if you had been Moses? Why?*
- *How does the statement "The Lord our God, the Lord is One" in verse 4 help us obey the command in verse 5?*
- *Why is it difficult to love God as He instructs us? Do you think God intended for it to be difficult to love Him?*
- *In what ways have you seen others live out this command—albeit imperfectly—in their own lives?*

**Summary:** Jesus quoted verses 4-5 when He was asked which was the greatest commandment (Mark 12:28-30), so we must agree that it is the primary foundation upon which to build our faith.

### TUESDAY STUDY

Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9 and answer the following questions:

- *Look carefully at verse 6. Where should God's Word be? What does that mean?*
- *Who is our FIRST priority when it comes to repeating the words God has put in our heart?*
- *If your teenager was asked, "What are some things you hear over and over from your parents?" what would their answer be? Based on verse 7, what might you wish their answer would be?*
- *In what ways does verse 7 challenge parents? Which of these are your youth minister, pastor, or children's Sunday School teachers unable to do? (They don't follow you home. They aren't with you when you "lie down and when you get up.)*
- *Why do you think the Scripture says to write God's words on your "doorposts" and your "gates"? Why not paint them on the walls of your living room? (These would be the first thing you would see when you went in and the last thing you would see as you went out of your house.)*
- *Whom do you know that easily speaks of God's Word and His activity in their lives? How can you learn from their example?*
- *Which testimony is more memorable: a one-time testimony or a lifelong example? How do these verses reflect that truth?*

**Summary:** Moses' instructions for sharing our life message would not affect just our children but ultimately would affect everyone in our path each day as we reflect on them as we walk out the doorposts of our homes. Our willingness to share our faith with others clearly demonstrates our devotion to God and His Word.

### **WEDNESDAY STUDY**

**Read Deuteronomy 6:10-15a and answer the following questions:**

- *Note what the Israelites would receive in the promised land: cities, furnished houses, water, food, and more. How does that reflect the environment in which we live today in 21st-century America?*
- *In our world today, what are some "gods of the peoples around [us]," as mentioned in verse 14? Are Christians, in general, good at staying away from cultural gods? In what ways do you feel you do not follow other gods? In what areas do you struggle?*
- *What does "the Lord...is a jealous God" mean? (He is protective of His possessions, especially His children.) In what ways are you "jealous" for your spouse? For your children?*

**Summary:** God's blessings should draw us closer to Him. We should embrace good health, loving children, warm clothing, and so much more with the understanding that we have them because of God's provision and blessing. But sadly we often take them for granted. Moses was instructing the children of Israel to do the same. He wanted to remind them that God alone would provide them with all they needed; it had nothing to do with the power or wisdom of the Israelites. Moses knew, though, that sometimes a life of blessings leads to the belief that God is not necessary.

### **THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY STUDY**

Read the following articles contained in your study packet:

1. Education Children in Ancient Israel;
2. Memory & History in Ancient Israel;
3. The Shema - Its Meaning and Purpose;
4. The Shema;