



November 1, 2009
Sermon Based Studies

Group members page

“Paying Attention to God” Deuteronomy 6
Pastor Jim Strecker

Text: Deuteronomy 6

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.

Getting to know me

1. Do you have any memories from childhood of a story told by an older relative or parent, or perhaps a lesson learned from them?
2. Pastor Jim talked about multitasking. How many projects or tasks do you have going at one time? Are you a good multitasker or just distracted?
3. What’s your daily schedule like? Do you find it hard to fit in time to be with God by prayer, meditation, and Bible reading?

Into the Bible

1. Take a few minutes in your group to begin to memorize Deut. 6:4-5. Through the week, continue working on the rest of verses 6-9. If you get this guide before your group study, you could begin this process.
2. How can memorizing this passage help you to focus on God? Have you done other Scripture memory work and how has that helped your walk with God?

3. Consider the following verses. We usually think of these verses in relation to communicating the gospel, but how can they help us focus our minds on God?

I John 4:10 says, "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

Romans 5:8 says, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

4. What do you think it means to love God with "heart, soul, and might?" (Luke 10:27 adds "mind")
5. Talking about God's Word through the course of the day ("when you sit in your house, etc.") means that you are familiar with the Word. What do the following verses say about how we can gain that understanding?
Deut. 17:18-20; Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:11, 48, 105, 140;
Matt. 4:4; Acts 17:11; II Tim. 3:14-17.

Application Questions

1. Discuss some of the situations in which you have been able to teach your children what it means to love and follow God. Perhaps there have been times that you have missed an opportunity. As you reflect on that, what could you have done differently?
2. Have you ever talked with your children about how you came to faith in Christ? How do they see you express your daily commitment to Him?
3. The psalmist says, "Seven times a day do I praise you" and this led to a Jewish tradition of prayers at given hours of the day. By the fifth century, Christians practiced eight daily periods of prayer. Many liturgical churches now observe four daily times of prayer. Evangelical practice is to have a daily "quiet time." What else could you do on a daily basis to focus your attention back on God?
4. In his message, Pastor Jim said that the tassels on a Hebrew's garments were to remind them of God's commandments. What kind of reminders could you use to remind you of God's love and grace to us?