

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

God So Loved, Our God, More Like Jesus

WELCOME

Who among your family do you have the closest resemblance to? Why do you say so? On what basis?

WORD

DEUTERONOMY 6:1-9

“Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the judgments which the Lord your God has commanded me to teach you, that you might do them in the land where you are going over to possess it,² so that you and your son and your grandson might fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.³ O Israel, you should listen and be careful to do it, that it may be well with you and that you may multiply greatly, just as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.⁴ “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is 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 These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart.⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your sons 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 up.⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead.⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Last week, we saw the importance of knowing and living out God’s design for the family. **Benjamin Disraeli** once said, **“No success in public life can compensate for failure in the home.”** If something goes wrong with something as expensive and precious as marriage or family, remember that GOD gave us the Manufacturer’s Manual, the Bible to consult. For this week, we will focus on the principle of **modeling** to positively influence the heart for lasting impact.

In **1 Corinthians 11:1**, the Apostle Paul reminds, **“Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.”** The best way to learn is through observation and copying. Discipleship is all about modeling. It simply means a disciple will copy the discipler.

We study the principle of modeling based on **Deuteronomy 6**. Modeling is all about influencing the hearts of our disciples, family members, or children. It focuses on values. It is not about perfection but authenticity.

1. MODELING BEGINS WITH THE HEART.

Deuteronomy 6:1-2 opens with a commandment. The intention of giving these commandments is for our wellbeing. The Bible says, **“so that your days may be prolonged”**. The heart is very important. The attitude about God’s Word and commandments is vital. We must make sure we adhere to the directions of God. The benefit continues in **v.3**: You will notice the heart of God when He talks about commandments and teaching—why He wanted them to do certain things: **SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU. God’s manual instructs us on God’s Best for us.** He tells you not just how to make a living, but how to live life!

It is important that we touch the hearts of our children and disciples, especially in terms of connecting them to God. The purpose of modeling is to impact the heart. But you must know God’s design – God’s ways. God’s rules and commandments are not to restrict us but protect us. It is not to control us, but to liberate us and to enhance our enjoyment of life with Him and others.

Deuteronomy 6:4-6 shows us that loving God with **ALL** our heart, soul, and might is crucial for relating to others. When you love God with all your heart, you are able to love others better. Such is the nature of LOVE. That is the beginning of discipleship – you want to be able to help others not only to know Jesus, but **TO LOVE HIM 100%**. If someone loves GOD, obedience will no longer be a problem. Modeling is influencing the heart to love God. **The heart is the root, behavior is the fruit.**

2. MODELING IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF INFLUENCING THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE.

Deuteronomy 6:7-9 tells us further the importance of **“constant reminders”**. God’s people were instructed by God to **teach them (God’s commands) diligently to their children**. Grammatically, it meant to make sure that they (the ones taught) will learn. You are to be intentional and informal—it’s a way of life. The intent of God is to let the command be a **reminder** to treasure His Word and teachings – **the foundation of which is LOVE**. Jesus also knew that modeling is the most effective way of teaching, that’s why He said in **John 13:15**, **“For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.”** Jesus was purposeful and intentional; He taught by example. As **Albert Einstein** once said, **“Setting an example is**

WORD (cont'd)

not the main means of influencing others; it is the ONLY means.”
This ought to remind us that our children or disciples watch and copy us. We must intentionally set ourselves to be good examples and influencers for the people that God has placed in our lives. Who you are, what you do...is more effective than what you say.

3. MODELING FOCUSES ON VALUES.

Values are caught, not taught. Wrong actions can speak so loudly that the world cannot hear the good things you say! You have to model values that exult Jesus Christ in your life. Remember, the best way to teach values is not always through a lecture. It's how you model it, because the people you want to influence (children or disciples) will value the things you value. Make sure your character, integrity, and goal to please God can be clearly seen in your life! Remember too that being a role model is a great privilege!

4. MODELING IS NOT ABOUT PERFECTION, BUT AUTHENTICITY.

Modeling is being TRUE. While none of us can be perfect, we need to practice authenticity. Young people can sense hypocrisy in adults easily! Being authentic means when you make a

mistake, you humbly admit it and then you ask for forgiveness. Don't try to rationalize, give excuses, or blame others.

5. MODELING IS ABOUT BEING INTENTIONAL

1 Timothy 5:1-2 shows us that *the family is the laboratory for human interactions*. The examples we set can impact one another! Be intentional in modeling: **CHARACTER, VALUES, STEWARDSHIP, and DEPENDENCE ON THE HOLY SPIRIT**. We must not be careless in our modeling. Remember, the Christian life is not hard – it is SUPERNATURAL. We need the Holy Spirit for our lives and our families to be Christ-centered.

“You must be what you want your children to be because they will become what you are” -- **Deonna Tan-Chi**. If we want our disciples and children to love the Lord, serve God, stand for and share the Gospel, we must ask ourselves – **ARE WE MODELING THESE THINGS to them?**

Lastly, may we learn to imitate the Greatest Role Model of all – Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, who lived life for the sake of others and whose life we find to be the pattern worth living and following!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. What character traits and values do you want your family members to have? How will you model these to them?
2. Are you the same person inside and outside your home? Explain your answer.
3. What will you stop doing and start doing to model the right values to your loved ones starting this week?

WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray for opportunities for you to share and showcase God's love to your family, friends, and disciples and for them to experience firsthand the love of God in their lives. Show authenticity through your words and actions in all your relationships. Model Christlikeness in all aspects of life and in all situations.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends