

/ Geoff Wiklund

**WARM UP** | We have all heard that our wives want us to be the leaders in the home and to take spiritual leadership. We know that this is biblically correct and yet it seems that most guys I talk to are struggling in this. What is the problem with us and why is it so hard? I know there have been times that I should have been the one to suggest prayer, but I was too slow.



**READ** | Deuteronomy 6:6-9



**BACKGROUND** |

Verse 7: "Thou shalt teach them diligently" - *shinnantam*, from *shaman* - to repeat, iterate, or do a thing again and again; hence, to whet or sharpen any instrument, which is done by reiterated friction or grinding.

We see here the spirit of this divine injunction. God's testimonies must be taught to our children, and the utmost diligence must be used to make them understand them. This is a most difficult task; and it requires much patience, much prudence, much judgment, and much piety in the parents, to enable them to do this good, this most important work, in the best and most effectual manner. - Adam Clarke's Commentary

**QUESTIONS** |

- 1 How do you teach your children in your home? Or if you don't have children, what instruction did you receive?
- 2 Why do you think this is so difficult? What causes us as men to leave it to the Sunday School or our wives, and not show the lead in this area?

- 3 What resources are you aware of that could help you and the group to obey this commandment?
- 4 The verse in Deuteronomy encourages teaching as we sit (formal), go to bed (probably by prayer) and finally, as we walk (which would infer teaching by the things we see and the questions asked). How could you do this?



**MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER** |

What do I need to apply from what I have learned from this study?

**IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER** |

**CONSIDER THIS** |

*Most people think when questioned that Solomon asked God for wisdom, when in fact if you look at his prayer this was not so. He prayed "but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in." His father King David failed to teach him how to enter into the presence of the Lord and to come out and rule his people. David failed his son so that now he is king he does not have the relationship with God to get the job done. I realised one day that I had done the same with my children so I began to have devotions in sight of my children and then I took opportunities to teach them what God showed me.*

**WRAP UP** |

Share what you do for your own devotions. Are you where you want to be? How can you lift your game? Work out how you can take this new level of devotions to your children.