

Life, the Teacher

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Deuteronomy 6:5-9.
- B. Subject: teaching in the home.
- C. The forces at work in the home can be hurtful as well as helpful.

II. What needs to be taught is to love God.

- A. Nothing can happen through us that have not happened to us. Parents must be living examples.
- B. Parents must teach the love of God diligently to their children within their homes in relation to life.

III. What is to be done.

- A. The love of God must be talked about, not preached or taught directly.
 - 1. The Sunday school should not be the primary place for teaching, nor should it be transferred into the home.
 - 2. God must be recognized everywhere in life contrary to the world.
- B. The kingdom of God is to be sought primarily.
- C. Follow a simple method of discovery and response—talk about God naturally.

IV. Where and when it is to be done.

- A. Do it at a mealtime.
 - 1. The parent must be the initiator.
 - 2. There needs to be honesty and vulnerability.
 - 3. God is the “Grand Perhaps” appearing at all sorts of moments—we are always to look for teachable moments.
 - 4. Do not moralize—let it be genuine.
 - 5. Ask thought provoking questions.
- B. Family worship ought to grow out of a universal exposure to the nature and knowledge of God.

C. Encouragement and truth is needed each morning, but a person must adapt to each circumstance.

Application questions:

1. What stands out to you most about the principles suggested for teaching children? Why?

2. Why is moralizing an ineffective teaching method?

3. Who stands out to you as a model of parenting? Which of the above principles do they model the best?
