



Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1. Think about your childhood and recall the example that was set for you in parenting style. Were your parents highly involved and intentional or allowed you to fend for yourself? Where would your childhood experience land on the following continuum?

Left to my own devices

Involved in everything I did

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2. What are some positive actions you learned from your parents? What negative actions do you want to do or have done differently?
3. Several negative speech patterns were highlighted: sarcasm, name-calling, disgust, shaming, swearing. Did you recognize any of these mean-spirited patterns in your life? If so, have you considered if you need to change especially if you have children? How will you make steps to move away from negative patterns?
4. If you are parents, discuss how you can use daily rhythms to build into the life of your kids.
 - Meal Time=Parent as Teacher
 - Drive Time= Parent as Friend
 - Bed Time= Parent as Counselor
 - Morning Time= Parent as Coach

If you don't have children, discuss how you can invest in the lives of kids within your circle of influence (take out for a special treat or activity, babysit for parents, invite to your home for a meal, offer to drive them to an activity, etc.)

5. Moses points out the importance of the love relationship in our faith. Do you find this to be true? Do you believe that love is the best way to demonstrate faith?
6. List up to 5 children/youth that you have relationship with and write down an encouragement statement for each one. Take time to tell or write them an encouraging word, (where you see God working in their life, what you appreciate about them, a quality they possess that points people to Jesus). Pray in your group for the children on your list.