

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of April 24-30, 2022

## “BECOMING THE PARENT GOD WANTS YOU TO BE”

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### GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

When you think about your parents (i.e. either Dad or Mom), what one funny characteristic come to mind? (If you grew up without parents, consider someone you looked up to or were close to.)

### GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9.

1. List down God's promises in this passage. Why is it important to be reminded of the Lord's promises and blessings? What are the conditions of the blessings that are laid out in these verses?
2. Verse 2 tells us to “fear the lord” and verse 5 tells us to “love the Lord.” How are both fear and love important motivations for us? In what areas of your life do you obey God's law out of fear or obligation and in what areas do you obey out of love?
3. The *Shema* is a call to listen and respond to the truth that Yahweh is the one true God, and the response is to love God with our whole being. Read again Deut 6:4-9. In what ways do you see the importance of the *shema* when it was first given in this passage? How might it still be relevant to you today?
4. When you think about your parents or Christian parents that you look up to, what specific areas have you seen in them where they have modelled their love and obedience to Jesus? Why is this important?
5. Deuteronomy 6:7-9 talks about the parents (and the community) teaching the commands of God to others. How does the principle of 2 Timothy 2:2 affirm this? How are you going to begin or continue the process of teaching/disciplining others?
6. The greatest commandment is that we love God (Matthew 22:36-40). When things are going well, it is easy to lose our focus on Christ and turn to the blessings he gives. When life is hard, it is easy to complain and be angry. What steps are you taking to ensure that God remains the focus of your life and of your family?

7. Does the Bible promise for certain that if we raise our children properly they will never go astray?

### 8. NEXT STEPS

*“We love best when we love God the most.”*

- I will be a model that follows God, a mirror that loves God, and a mentor as we teach about God.”
- I will strive (by God's grace) to be the parent God wants me to be.
- I will make my family my priority in cultivating a personal relationship with Jesus.
- I will live a life with fear and love for God.
- I will consistently make God a part of every aspect of my life.

*Don't forget to:*

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

### CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for a teachable heart before God.
- Pray for families to grow more in love with Christ.
- Pray for reconciliation within family members.
- Take the time to pray for the upcoming elections and for peace.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.

### BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

April 25	2 Timothy 1:6-12
April 26	Proverbs 23:24-25
April 27	1 Corinthians 16:13-24
April 28	Matthew 7:7-11
April 29	Titus 1:5-9
April 30	Psalms 78:1-8
May 1	Titus 2:1-8