



Instafam
“How to Focus Your Family Identity”
Deuteronomy 6:1-9
May 6, 2018 / Pastor Shawn

Picture It

- How did your parents model life for you? How has that affected your life?
- Did you learn about faith in Jesus as a child? Who first taught you about Jesus?
- Name a godly practice you learned from your parents?
- What is one practice you are (or desire to) planting in your own children?

Practice It

(1) Parenting is a *sacred trust*. Our children have been given to us by God. They are not our highest value. Christ is. According to what Pastor Shawn shared on Sunday from Deuteronomy 6:1-9 what is our calling as parents?

(2) What were the two (2) principles given as ways to help focus your family identity?

(3) Of the 4 Phases of Development Pastor Shawn outlined, in which one(s) are you currently? In what ways are you attempting to help answer the questions your child is asking with each Phase? How might the “Age-Appropriate Chores for Children” on the other side of this handout help in answering these questions?

(4) Read James 1:5-8. How does this promise bring encouragement to you as a parent as you depend upon God?

Personalize It

(1) Pastor Shawn listed several ways they “intentionally” spent time as a family. What are some ways you can (or are) intentionally spend time as a family. Pastor Shawn said try identifying ten (10) ways. Pick one and practice it this week. (Invite your children to help you select.)

(2) For each of your children (*especially your teen, if you have one*):

a - Identify all the people who spend at least one hour with your child during the course of a week; excluding yourself and your spouse.

b - Next to their names, place the total hours per week they spend with your child.

c - Count the number of people you have listed who have standards and values different from your own.

d - Now count the number of hours they spend with your child weekly.

Ask yourself: In relationship to your child and their influences, are your values being challenged or supported?

Name	Hours Invested (weekly)	Values: Different or Same?

(3) Spend time praying for your family and for each child individually.

Age-Appropriate Chores for Children

(Christine M. Field's book "Life Skills for Children;" 2000)

Ages 2-3

Begin to dress self	Help feed animals
Help make bed – at least pull covers up	Help wipe up spills
Pick up toys	Dry unbreakable dishes
Hang clothing on hooks	Sweep
Carry laundry to and from laundry area	Bring in newspaper
Help fold towels	Mop a small area
Empty light trash cans	Pour from small pitcher
Dust	Pull weeds
Carry plate to sink after meals	Fetch diapers
Put silverware in dishwasher	Help pick up living room
Say Prayers	

Ages 4-5

Dress self	Help rake yard
Make own bed	Help wash car/clean interior
Clear dishes from table	Sweep patio
Set table	Wash floors & low walls
Retrieve the mail	Put own clothes away
Dust	Put dirty clothes in hamper
Water plants	Sort clean clothes by family
Help in kitchen – stirring, ripping lettuce	Help load dishwasher
Hang towel after bath	Get allowance
Help carry and put away groceries	Wash toys when needed

Notes: Ages 5 - 12 or so are golden years for teaching children at home. These kids are increasingly capable and yet not too preoccupied with school and extracurricular activities. Make sure you start to give both boys and girls the opportunity to do outside chores and to do maintenance-type tasks with Dad. Don't neglect teaching both your son and your daughter to do chores inside the home, like cooking and cleaning. You will shortchange them for life if you do.

Ages 6 - 12

Make bed	Wash, dry, put away dishes
Take care of pets – clean cages and feed	Clean bathroom completely
Cook simple foods – use simple recipes	Rake leaves, shovel snow
Make school lunches	Weed & water garden
Help with yard work	Use washer and dryer
Help wash car	Take out trash
Wash, hang, and fold laundry	Strip and change beds
Vacuum, sweep, and mop	Iron
Straighten up house	Polish dress shoes
Read Bible daily	Have daily devotions

Ages 13+

Any of the above, plus:	Do all laundry functions
Change light bulbs	Iron clothes
Replace vacuum cleaner bag	Do clothes mending, repairs
Wash inside and outside windows	Mow lawn
Clean out refrigerator	Trim yard
Clean stove and oven	Wash & polish car
Prepare a meal	Maintain a bicycle (air tires, oil squeaks)
Make grocery lists	Help paint and caulk
Shop for groceries	Serve in Church
Cook meals	Shopping and sales
Simple budgeting	