

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

We Focus our Family Identity when we realize our parental responsibility is to gradually transfer our children’s dependence upon us to dependence on God and interdependence with family.

¹ These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, ² so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

4 NATURAL PHASES OF DEVELOPMENT

¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I call you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15

Phase 1: Discipline (Birth - 5 years)

Key Questions: “Am I safe?” “Am I able?”

Phase 2: Training (6 - 12 years)

Key Questions: “Do I have your attention?” “Do I have what it takes?”

Phase 3: Coaching

Key Questions: “Who likes me?” “Who do I like?” “Where do I belong?” “Why should I believe?”

Phase 4: Friendship

Key Questions: “How can I matter?” “What will I do?” “Who am I?”

WHEN FAMILY IDENTITY IS STRONG, PEER-PRESSURE IS WEAK.
WHEN FAMILY IDENTITY IS WEAK, PEER-PRESSURE IS STRONG.

2 PRINCIPLES TO HELP FOCUS FAMILY IDENTITY

1. Love

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Kids Who Become Active Christ-followers as Adults

If mom and dad went to church:	<u>72</u> % of kids will as adults.
If mom only went to church:	<u>15</u> % of kids will as adults.
If dad only went to church:	<u>55</u> % of kids will as adults.
If neither mom nor dad:	<u>6</u> % of kids will as adults.

Ask Yourself: Do I love God with all my heart or with some of my heart?

2. Influence our Families intentionally.

⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the door-frames of your houses and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

Ask Yourself: Who is influencing my children the most?