

“Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a

The second commandment contains both a severe threat and a most incredibly gracious promise. “You

### **A Solemn Responsibility**

Parents have an awesome responsibility. We are to bring our children up “in the training and instruction



Martin Luther emphasised the importance of family worship.

We are to manage our own family well and see that our children learn to obey with proper respect. 1 Tim

We are to “tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power and the wonders He h

The Bible tells us to not just raise God-fearing sons, but sons who will become God-fearing fathers, who

### **The First Priority of Parents**

One of the most important passages in the Bible comes in Deuteronomy 6, right after the restating of the

“These are the commands, decrees and Laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe . .

Here, at a most important occasion, after reminding all Israel of the Ten Commandments, the uniqueness

### **Educating the Next Generation**

The very first application of this, the greatest commandment, is to “Impress them on your children. Talk a

If we fail to do this, we may reach the disgraceful and disastrous situation described in Judges 2:10: “An

We are in danger of this today since many children of Christian parents are more enthusiastic for Pokém

“My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject y

We are commanded in Scripture “only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forge

“Their children, who do not know this Law, must hear it and learn to fear the Lord your God ...” Deut 31:



Luther used Christmas celebration to

disciple the family.

## Failures Never To Forget

The Bible includes many frightening examples of tragic failure by Christian leaders to adequately discipline

King David's failure to discipline his rebellious son, Absalom, had the most disastrous consequences for

Of the stories of the Exodus from Egypt and Israel's wanderings in the wilderness the Scripture says: "T

The Scriptures also warn us of a time that will come when: “people will be lovers of themselves, lovers of

That description could so accurately be applied to much of what is going on in our society today. Notice



## **Respect for Authority**

Indeed, God's Law declares: "Cursed is the man who dishonours his father or his mother. Then all the p

“The eye that mocks a father, that scorns obedience to a mother, will be pecked out by the ravens of the

Our Lord Jesus declared: "Honour your father and mother and anyone who curses his father or mother n

Tragically, respect for parents and elders is becoming increasingly rare, even in Christian circles today.

These commands are not just to young children. No matter what our age, whether we are living under o

“Each of you must revere his mother and father, and you must observe My Sabbaths. I am the Lord your

In the light of the overwhelming pressures which assail families, and the relentless temptations that surr

## 1. Bible Before Breakfast

It is essential that we establish Bible-centered homes. There are many ways that we can do this. Firstly,



## 2. Scripture Before Supper

As the evening meal tends to be the most important time of fellowship in most families, it would be ideal

### 3. Devotions After Dinner

Some families may prefer Devotions after dinner, which could be done around the meal table, in a bedroom

#### 4. Bible Stories and Prayer Before Bed

One of the most important times of any Christian family with children should be Bible stories and prayer

Many parents will protest that they don't have the time for all this. Well, actually you do have the time if y

## 5. Make Sundays Special

From the earliest, we need to teach our children a love and a respect for God's Word, for the Church and

The French Revolutionary and atheist, Voltaire, declared: “If you want to kill Christianity, you must abolish

D.L. Moody observed: “You show me a nation that has given up the Sabbath, and I will show you a nation

Bishop J.C. Ryle challenged us: “Common sense, reason, conscience will combine, I think, to say that if



The Puritan writer, Richard Baxter, advised: “See that the Lord's Day be spent in holy preparation for etc

Any relationship needs quality time and we need to devote at least one day a week to developing and de

“If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on My Holy day, if you c

Isaiah 58:13-14

Setting aside the first day of the week as a special day is good for our body, mind and soul. We need time

By ordering our week to set aside the Lord's Day as a special day for the family, to rest and to worship th

Preparation for worship on Sunday begins the day before - ensuring that our children get to bed early en

It is essential that we teach our children respect for authority, starting with their parents, and then for gra

## 6. Scripture Memorisation

Scripture memorisation is a vital tool in discipleship: “How can a young man keep his way pure? By living



“Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.” Psalm 119:105

If we build our children's lives upon the Rock of God's Word, then they will stand in the storms of life that

These principles of: respect for authority, for the Lord's Day and for the Lord's house; and love for God's

Let us disciple our children by word and deed, by our lives and our lips, by education and by example -c

“Let the Word of Christ dwell in your heart richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom

(Dr. Peter Hammond is the Director of Frontline Fellowship and the author of The Greatest Century of M

[www.frontline.org.za](http://www.frontline.org.za))



