



Icebreaker: When in your life were you strong in discipleship? When not so much? Why?

I. FOUNDATION OF DISCIPLESHIP (vs 4-6)

Scripture: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart." Deuteronomy 6:4-6

Main Idea: Discipleship is built on the foundation of love - specifically, loving God with all your heart, soul, and might. This love isn't based on feelings but is a daily choice that transforms us from the inside out. True discipleship means not just learning about Christ, but becoming like Him in character and action.

Discussion Questions:

Love is a choice, not just a feeling. Can you share an example from your own life where you chose to love God or others even when you didn't "feel" like it?

What does it practically look like to love God "with all your heart, soul, and might" in your daily life? Which areas do you find most challenging?

Discipleship means becoming like Jesus, not just learning about Him. What is one specific characteristic of Jesus that you're currently working to develop in your own life?

II. FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DISCIPLESHIP (vs7)

"You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Deuteronomy 6:7

Main Idea: Discipleship extends beyond individual growth to include both family and community. Parents are called to be the primary spiritual influencers for their children, consistently sharing their faith through regular conversations and modeling. The entire church community also plays a vital role in discipleship by providing multiple Christ-centered voices and examples across generations.

Discussion Questions:

What spiritual habits or practices do you currently have (or would you like to develop) that help you share your faith consistently with those in your household or close community?

The sermon emphasized the importance of multi-generational influences in discipleship. Who has been an important spiritual influence in your life outside your immediate family, and what impact did they have?

In what ways can our small group become more intentional about supporting one another's spiritual growth and creating an environment where discipleship happens naturally?



EVERYDAY DISCIPLESHIP

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 | Pastor Jon Collado

04/27/2025

Note: The pastor mentioned resources available for families with children, students, and for everyone in the church community. Consider checking these out and discussing which ones might be helpful for members of your group.

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TEN DISCIPLESHIP PRACTICES FOR PERSONAL AND FAMILY GROWTH

- Daily Scripture Engagement - Read, memorize, and meditate on God's Word individually and as a family.
- Intentional Prayer Life - Establish regular times for personal and family prayer, including thanksgiving, confession, and intercession.
- Multigenerational Mentoring - Seek wisdom from mature believers while investing in younger disciples.
- Service-Oriented Living - Find ways to serve others regularly, both within the church and community.
- Sabbath Observance - Practice regular rest and worship to reset your spiritual focus.
- Family Faith Rituals - Create meaningful traditions that reinforce your family's commitment to Christ.
- Accountability Relationships - Maintain honest relationships where spiritual growth is encouraged and monitored.
- Generous Stewardship - Practice biblical generosity with time, talents, and treasures.
- Hospitality Practice - Open your home to others as a way of embodying Christ's welcome.
- Faith Articulation - Regularly share your testimony and faith journey with others, becoming comfortable explaining what you believe and why.



Ten Faith Conversation Starters for Family Time

These conversation starters are designed to spark meaningful discussions about faith during family gatherings, meal times, or dedicated family devotion periods. They're appropriate for various ages and can be adapted based on your family's specific faith journey.

"If you could ask God one question and get an immediate answer, what would you ask and why?" This question opens the door to discussing curiosities, doubts, and deep theological questions in a safe environment.

"Share a moment this week when you felt God's presence or guidance in your life." This encourages family members to recognize God's activity in everyday moments and practice spiritual awareness.

"Which Bible character (besides Jesus) do you most relate to right now and why?" This helps connect biblical narratives to personal experiences and challenges family members are currently facing.

"What's one area in your life where trusting God is difficult right now?" This creates space for vulnerability and allows family members to support each other through struggles of faith.

"If you could instantly master one spiritual discipline (prayer, Bible study, service, etc.), which would you choose and how might it change your relationship with God?" This prompts reflection on spiritual growth priorities.

"What's a Scripture verse that has been meaningful to you lately? Why does it speak to you?" This encourages Scripture engagement and helps family members articulate how God's Word connects to their lives.

"How have you seen God answer a prayer recently, either with a 'yes,' 'no,' or 'wait'?" This builds faith by recognizing God's responsiveness and helps develop a mature understanding of prayer.

"What's one way our family could better demonstrate God's love to our neighbors or community?" This connects faith with action and helps develop a missional family mindset.

"When was a time you felt closest to God? What was happening in your life then?" This helps identify spiritual high points and the conditions that foster intimacy with God.

"If someone asked you to explain what you believe about Jesus in just a few sentences, what would you say?" This builds confidence in articulating core faith convictions and reveals how family members understand the gospel.

Remember, the goal isn't to lecture or correct theological misunderstandings immediately, but to create a safe space where honest questions and authentic faith can be expressed. Listen carefully, affirm thoughtful responses, and let conversations unfold naturally rather than rushing to cover all points.



TEN DISCIPLESHIP PRACTICES FOR BUSY PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

- Car Time Conversations - Transform drive time into spiritual formation by using age-appropriate audio Bibles, worship music, or simply asking faith questions like "Where did you see God today?" Short, frequent conversations build faith naturally within your existing routine.
- Mealtime Moments - Even if you can only eat together a few times a week, establish a simple ritual like a gratitude practice, a brief Scripture reading, or taking turns sharing a "God sighting" from the day. Quality matters more than length.
- Bedtime Blessings - Create a 2-minute bedtime ritual that includes a simple prayer, a Scripture blessing, or asking what your child is thankful for today. Consistency in this small moment builds spiritual security and habits.
- Digital Discipleship - Use technology intentionally by subscribing to family devotional apps that send daily prompts, listening to faith podcasts together, or setting up Scripture as phone wallpapers as visual reminders throughout your day.
- Sabbath Snippets - If a full Sabbath day feels impossible, start with a "Sabbath hour" where devices are off and the family enjoys restful connection through games, nature walks, or reading together. Gradually expand this time as it becomes habit.
- Service Sprinkles - Integrate small acts of service into regular routines—baking for a neighbor, drawing pictures for nursing home residents, or organizing gently used toys for donation. Even tiny acts teach a lifestyle of service.
- Visual Faith Anchors - Place Scripture art, prayer boards, or thankfulness jars prominently in your home. These visual cues prompt spiritual conversations and become interactive family faith projects with minimal time investment.
- Parenting Partners - Connect with another family in a similar life stage to share the discipleship journey. Alternate hosting simple gatherings where adults can discuss faith while children play, creating community with shared responsibility.
- Celebration Traditions - Rather than adding more to your calendar, infuse existing celebrations (birthdays, holidays, milestones) with spiritual significance through simple rituals that point to God's faithfulness and character.
- Faith on the Fly - Keep "spiritual conversation cards" in your purse or car for unexpected waiting times, connect everyday observations to biblical truths ("Look at those ants working together—God designed us for community too!"), and embrace the beauty of unplanned teachable moments.

Remember that in seasons of raising young children, faithfulness looks different. Small, consistent faith practices integrated into existing routines will bear more fruit than elaborate plans that create additional pressure. God's grace covers your parenting, and He works through even the smallest seeds of faith you plant in your children's hearts.