

DISCIPLE-MAKING AT HOME: STARTING WITH HOW – PART 5

MAY 21, 2020

In the first blog “**Starting with Why**” in this series “Disciple-making at Home,” I explained that **Deuteronomy 6:20-25** is the foundation. In the next 4 blogs about “**Starting with How**”, we took a deep dive into **Deuteronomy 6:4-9** and applied the teaching to have family devotion. Now, I would like to point out some challenges Christian parents like you face to make disciples at home through **Deuteronomy 6:10-19**.



In this passage, Moses describes God’s abundant blessings awaiting the Israelis in the Promised Land: cities, houses filled with possessions, wells and plentiful water, and vineyards and olive. All will be given to them free! At the same time, despite all the riches, he warns them of lurking spiritual dangers behind such comfortable life style and security:

1. They may think they own it all, and have earned the life style with their efforts. However, God has already reminded them that these are His blessings and grace that they do not earn (vv10-11).
2. They become satisfied with their material abundance (v11b). The Hebrew word translated into “satisfied” carries the meaning of being full. For instance, they will be so satisfied physically, mentally and even spiritually that they do not have any room for more, even God. In their mind, they feel full and will stop growing. As a result, they become stagnant or even complacent spiritually.
3. They will forget God (v12). This outcome is inevitable given that they take credit for the success and prosperity, and are satisfied with their status quo.

Moses is so concerned about the comfort and security that he reminds his people of the spiritual dangers. He reminds them that since God is the source and provider of the abundance in the Promised Land, they should continue to worship Him whole-heartedly:

1. Fear God (v13a)
2. Serve Him only (v13b)
3. Be loyal to God only (v14)
4. Keep God’s commands, and do what is right and good in His sight (vv17-18).



Likewise, in our steady and comfortable lives with packed schedules, we could easily fall in the same trap of being satisfied to the point that God is no longer the priority. Our busy lives may crowd out God, and disciple-making, at home or elsewhere, could be relegated to the back-burner. We need to reflect according to Moses’ teaching, and re-orient our heart again to put God first and centre in our lives. Then, we can share His blessings with our children at home so that they can also taste how sweet and abundant His grace is.

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To grow spiritually, check out the Pastor’s Corner (<https://emc.ecac.ca/pastors-corner/>) and JMC’s Devotions (<https://emc.ecac.ca/jmc-devotionals/>).