

## Teaching Your Child About God

By: Dan Jenkins

As promised, this is a continuation of last week's article which laid the background of how I can teach my little child about God. We said, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if there was a book entitled, 'Seven Steps to Raising Godly Children,' that would give us all answers with easy rules to just follow?" As the article continued, it said, "There is such book." It does not give seven rules, but it gives the principles God gave Israel as they left Egypt.

It begins by telling us to love God with all your heart and soul (Deut. 6:4), and the words written on stone were then engraved on our hearts and souls (Psa. 37:31; Jer. 31:33). How do I show this to my child? How can he ever see that I love God? Deuteronomy 6 continues by showing that almost every day there are so many times you can talk to your children, even the very smallest, about God. God knew the needs of children and told parents to openly talk about God, not just in the home, but everywhere they went. Read the book. This principle is found in Deuteronomy 6:7-9.

Read the rest of the chapter. God said that sometimes children would ask a "why" question about God. Why do we go to church? Why do you eat the bread and drink the juice and I do not? Why are people dunked in the water? Why do you close your eyes when praying? They may have so many other questions that they wonder about. Read verse 20 carefully. Your answer is not to teach him the "rules" of God but to teach him the deeper

meaning about why these rules exist.

Jewish children could ask, "Why did you break the neck of that newborn baby donkey?" (Ex. 13:13; 34:20). He is not asking what the rule is, he knows God said to do that to all firstborns. Will your child, who is a firstborn, understand? They could ask, "Why do you work so hard every day except Saturday, and why was that man killed who picked up sticks on Saturday?" (Num. 15:32-36). They could ask, "Why are there no women priests?" "Why are lambs killed twice every day at the temple?"

Now apply this rule to what your child sees in you. He may have many questions. Why do you mark in your Bible? Why do people seem so happy when someone is baptized? You said you loved God, so why do you criticize the songs we sing, the sermon, the way some behave in worship, the people chosen or not chosen to lead in worship and so many other things? Do you enjoy worship?

Does your child see how much you give? Is more given to Starbucks every week than is given to God? He hears you talk and wonders if you really enjoy worship. Let your children know the rules of God. Talk all week to your children about God. Make sure you teach the "meaning of the rules."

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# Spiritual Growth: Add Brotherly Kindness

By: Selected

As spiritual growth continues, Peter turns our focus outward: “add...to godliness brotherly kindness” (2 Pet. 1:7). Up to this point, the qualities have emphasized personal development and devotion to God. Now the emphasis shifts to how we treat others—especially fellow Christians.

“Brotherly kindness” is the Greek word *philadelphia*, meaning “love of the brethren.” It describes the affection, care and concern that Christians are to have for one another as members of the same family. Scripture commands us to “continue” in it (Heb. 13:1) and “increase more and more in it” (1 Thess. 4:9-10). In fact, we have been purified in Christ for the purpose of loving one another (1 Pet. 1:22).

Brotherly kindness is essential because it reflects our relationship with God. John makes this clear: “He who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?” (1 John 4:20). Jesus also made it an identifying mark of being His disciple (John 13:34-35). In a world often marked by division and hostility, genuine brotherly kindness stands out powerfully.

Brotherly kindness is necessary for unity. Churches cannot remain strong and unified without it. Love produces patience, forgiveness and a willingness to work through difficulties. Without it, even small problems can lead to division.

So how do we develop brotherly kindness? First, it requires purity of heart. When we obey the gospel, our souls are cleansed, making sincere love possible (1 Pet. 1:22-23). A pure heart lays the foundation for genuine relationships.

Second, it requires learning from God. The

Father demonstrated love by giving His Son (1 John 4:9-10), and Jesus showed love through His sacrifice (1 John 3:16). The love of God helps us understand how to love others.

Third, it requires time and connection. Just as relationships in a physical family grow stronger through shared experiences, so our love for one another deepens as we spend time together, worship together and serve together.

Fourth, it requires prayer. It is difficult to harbor resentment for someone when we are regularly praying for them. Prayer softens the heart and strengthens love.

Brotherly kindness is demonstrated in both attitude and action. It shows in consideration for others, careful speech and a willingness to limit personal liberties for another’s good (Rom. 15:1; 1 Cor. 8:13). It also shows in service—encouraging, helping and building one another up (1 Thess. 5:14).

As we grow in Christ, we must recognize that a strong faith must be accompanied by a strong love for the brethren.



## Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 5th: Monthly potluck luncheon with a 12:45pm afternoon service.

Sunday, July 12th: Monthly youth devo after evening services.

Area events:

\*Area events/details are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please check them out.\*

## Prayer List

Prayer Requests:

Rieke Bass who will be having radiation treatment.

Steve Randle who will be having knee surgery July 1st.

Letty Randle, in the passing of her sister, Mary Hernandez.

Angela Sneeringer's cousin, Veronica Brown, who is not responding to dialysis.

### Summer Series Wednesday Night Classes

Every Wednesday night during the Summer session, the Adults will be learning about "Questions Jesus Asked" and the Children will be learning about "Biomimicry: God invented it First". Please join us at 7pm.

### VISITORS:

Thank you for visiting today. Please take a moment to scan this QR Code to fill out a visitor card. We would love to have a record of your attendance.



## Service Roster

Week of June 21, 2026

### Sunday Morning

Scripture Reading..... Dan Fielder  
Song Leader..... Kirk FitzSimmons

Opening Prayer..... Bryant Siegel  
Closing Prayer..... Barry Lehtinen

### Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread..... Kevin Sheeran  
Cup..... Randy D'Herde  
Offering..... Genesis Williams  
Assist..... Caleb Lehtinen  
Assist..... Blake Jacobs  
Assist..... Clifton Rutherford

### Sunday Evening

Song Leader..... Doug Jobes

Opening Prayer..... Kirk FitzSimmons  
Closing Prayer..... Steve Randle

Lord's Supper & Offering.....Lupe Escojido/  
Willie Fossati

### Wednesday Evening

Adult Class..... Mark FitzSimmons  
Song Leader..... Genesis Williams  
Devotional..... Mark FitzSimmons

### Other

Prepare Communion for June.....Rosales

## Congregational News This Week

### Anniversaries

Allen & Pam Clifton.....June 24

If you have any prayer requests, upcoming events to be announced, or updates/corrections please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030 or email [office.midtownchurch@gmail.com](mailto:office.midtownchurch@gmail.com)

## Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons  
Ron White

## Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism  
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence  
Doug Jobes—Safety, Men’s Encouragement &  
Winter Youth Retreat  
Kevin Sheeran—Worship Organization and  
Communication  
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

## Our Minister

Cody McCoy

## Weekly Reading

He has shown you, O Man, what is good; and  
what does the Lord require of you but to do just-  
ly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your  
God?  
Micah 6:8 NKJV

## Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.  
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

## Attendance Records

Week of June 14, 2026

A.M. Bible Class.....76  
A.M. Worship.....96  
P.M. Worship.....64  
Wednesday Worship.....69

*Financial information is located on the bulletin  
board in the hallway.*

## Supported Works

*Southwest School of Bible Studies*

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