

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 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. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Each day, read the entire passage out loud from Deuteronomy. Take turns reading! Each day your family will focus on a different sentence after reading all six verses.

Day One: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.” This verse is the very beginning of a prayer. A man named Moses was speaking this prayer and he wanted everyone around him to hear what he had to say. How does your family like to begin a prayer? “Dear God or maybe Dear Jesus?” This was the way this prayer began, kind of like saying, “Listen all, there is one God and we are getting ready to talk to Him”

LOVE: How will our family show God we are ready to be with Him today? When we see one another for the first time after a long day how do we greet each other? What will it look like for us to say greet God?

TALK/PRAY: Dear God, You are OUR God. You are our ONE God who shows love to us. Help us as a family to remember that you are the Lord our God. We can always come to you and talk to you. You are with us. Today, each one of us lift up these thoughts to you: (each family member says out loud any thought they want to share to God)Amen.

WORSHIP: As a family think about the times you can talk to God today. When and where did you want to talk to God? To begin a prayer to Him? To be with Him?

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Day Two: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.” This verse gives us an action! Look what we get to be apart of! We get to love God with everything we have! What will this look like for our family?

LOVE: What are the best gifts we have given each other? What ways do we show each other love? How can we show this kind of love to God?

TALK/PRAY: Dear God, Here are some of the ways you have shown our family love:Here are some of the ways we want to give love to you:

WORSHIP: What does it look like for us when we give ALL of what we have? When we give all of our energy in a game we are playing—how does it feel? When our family gives all of our attention to each other and not to a screen—how do we feel? Loving God with all our heart and with all our strength, what does that look like for our family today?

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Day Three: “These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children” Moses is giving instructions in his prayer. He did this to help people he loved to love one another better. What are some important instructions your family has that you live by? The word impress just means to show others. Moses is sharing how important it is to love God with all of our heart and all of our strength. He wanted the adults he was speaking to to share this with their children.

LOVE: How will our family make loving God important today? How will our family try to love one another today?

TALK/PRAY: Dear God, You have given us our hearts. You have given us the ability to share love. Help us remember where our hearts and love came from...you! Amen.

WORSHIP: As a family what will we keep in our hearts? What instructions are most important to us? Make a list in a spot where everyone will see the reminder of what's most important—a bathroom mirror, the kitchen table, etc.

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Day Four: “Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” Moses reminds the people he's sharing his prayer with that you can talk about loving God wherever you are. When you are sitting in your home, when you are outside—going for a walk as a family or even when you are getting ready for bed or getting up for the morning.

LOVE: How will our family talk about our love for God when we are sitting at home today? How will our family talk about our love for God when we are outside? How will our family think about loving God with all our strength when we are at a meal? It might be fun to see if each family member wants to share about God's love with each at a different time all throughout the day!

TALK/PRAY: Dear God, There is always a place and a time to share your love. You are always with us and as we go through this day help us to remember the gift of loving you. Early in the morning, when we are playing, if we get upset or hurt today, when we are happy, we can always find time to love you. Amen.

WORSHIP: Keep adding to the list you started together yesterday. List all the places and times where each person in your family is able to share about loving God and His love in your family's life!

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Day Five: "Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your forehead." Moses is really making a point, isn't he? When would we write instructions that are really important to remember on our hand or even on our forehead? When the instruction is super important, right? Have the adults in your family share if they have ever had a time when they were afraid they would forget something so they wrote a reminder on their hand. Loving the Lord our God with all of heart is pretty important!

LOVE: Use the symbol of a heart as a family reminder to Love God with all of your heart and all of your strength. Where could you add the heart shape in your home? See how many times you see it in different places throughout your day and share with each other! Will you see it on a screen? A building? A sign? A text message?

TALK/PRAY: Dear God, Help us to see reminders of your love for us all around us. Help us to BE your love wherever we go. Help us to always remember how important it is to love you with all of our strength. Amen.

WORSHIP: Who is someone your family loves who could use some extra love today? What will you do to share with them? How will you together as a family remind them of your love for them and God's love for them. (A phone call? A letter? Cookies? Folding laundry?) Who is someone your family does not know who could use some extra love today? What will you do to share with them? How will you together as a family remind them of your love for them and God's love for them. (A smile? A wave? Paying for someone's cup of coffee?)

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Day Six: “Write them on your doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” Moses doesn’t start with following this instruction to love God with all of your heart and all of your strength just on your hand as a reminder—he now tells his friends to find all the doors and gates in their homes to write this instruction on! If there had been billboards back then I’m sure he would have encouraged that too!

LOVE: How many doors and gates do you have in your house? Count together as a family. As you walk around your house/yard, spend time thanking God for each different person in your family. Each person that makes up your family is a walking reminder of God’s love and to love Him with all of your heart and strength.

TALK/PRAY: Dear God, Every door in our home and every person in our family is a reminder that you love us and we get to share our love with you. Help us to love you with all of our heart and all of our strength. Amen.

WORSHIP: Find a special place in your home that everyone sees everyday. You’ll do more with this special spot tomorrow but for now. Give everyone in your family a hug once you all have found this special place together!

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Day Seven: Your family has spent time on every part of these special verses. Can you repeat it together again? Or have an adult lead your family in a repeat after me out loud of all six verses?

LOVE: What one command has your family been reminded of this week? Loving the Lord your God with all your heart and with all of your soul and all of your strength can look differently for each person in your family. How has it looked like for each of you this week? How will this continue to be important as your family?

TALK/PRAY: Share a prayer together as a family sharing whatever comes to your heart about loving God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength.

WORSHIP: Remember that special place you found in your home yesterday? Make this your reminder spot! Instead of writing on your hands or your foreheads or your door frames or your backyard gate, take a post it-note or a sticker, or a picture frame and add in this place, the reminder that “The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”

Blessings,
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