

Choosing the Land of Milk & Honey

Deuteronomy 6:1 - 9



Moms: you are important

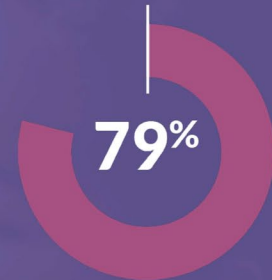
- God loves you. Not because of anything you do but because you are his beloved.
- You have great influence.



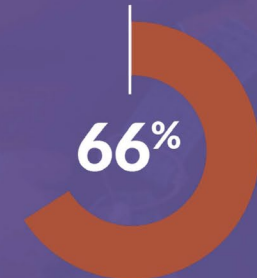
**MOTHERS ARE THE
MANAGERS OF
FAITH FORMATION.**

**PRACTICING CHRISTIAN TEENS SAY,
“MY MOTHER...”**

...ENCOURAGES ME TO
GO TO CHURCH



...TEACHES ME ABOUT
THE BIBLE



...TEACHES ME ABOUT
TRADITIONS



**OVERALL, MOMS
TODAY DON'T THINK
VERY HIGHLY ABOUT
THEIR COMMUNITY—
EVEN CHRISTIAN
MOMS.**

MOTHERS SAY,
“THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE TRUE:





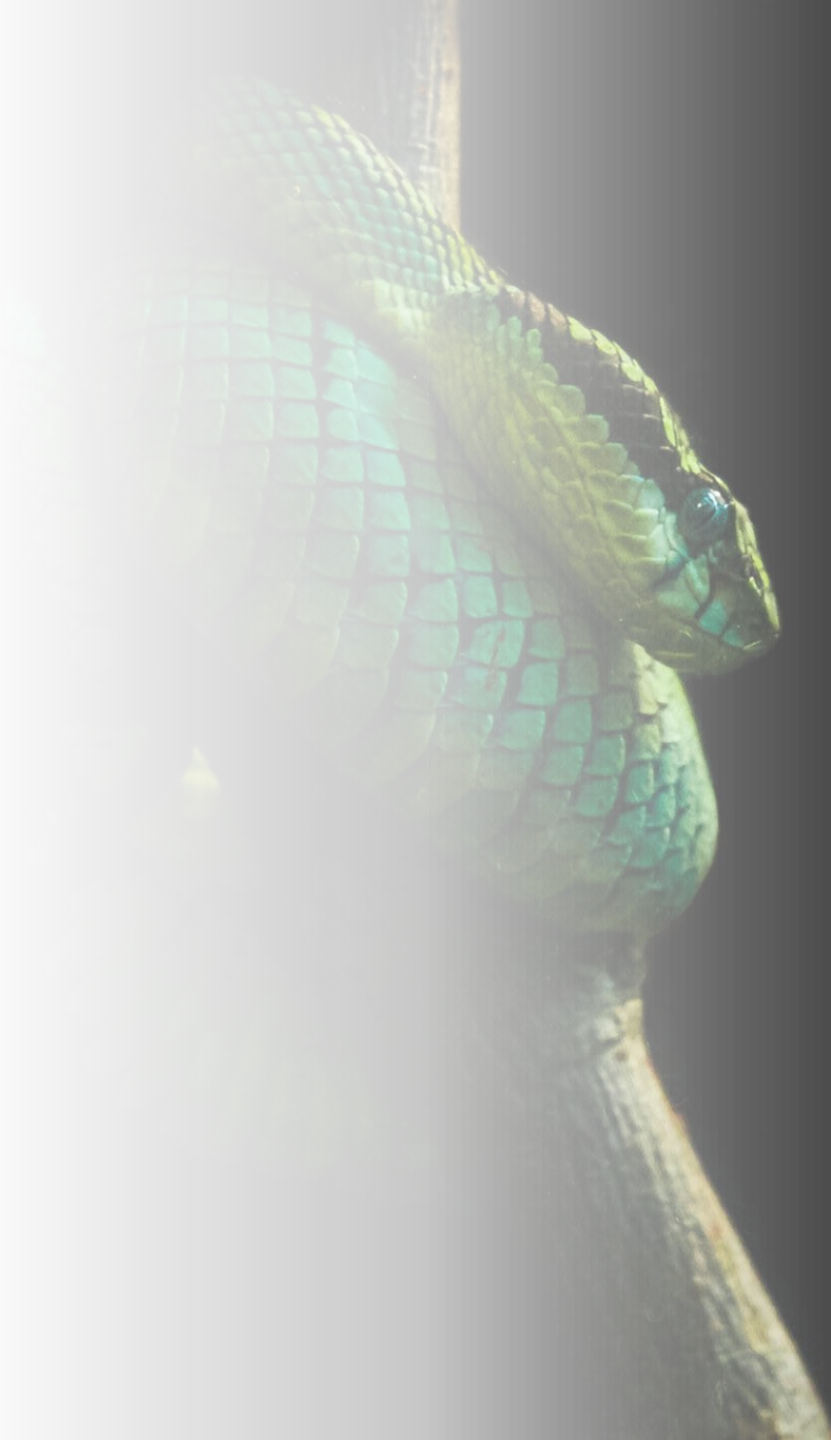
The Problem

Life is messy and there's a snake under the bed.

How do we raise children in the modern age?

How do we bring up future generations to know and yearn for the kind of life that God has for his children?

How will we prepare them to navigate this life and know how to find their way "home?"





A Plan and a Land

- The Shema: God's plan/instructions for the Israelites given through Moses.
- God's plan is based on a covenant relationship between God and his people.
- God's instructions for living so that future generations receive the many good things he has promised.

Spiritual Alignment: Hear and Obey

- *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.* – Deuteronomy 6:4 -5
- Hearing and obedience are partners.
 - “To Hear” in Hebrew lexicography, is tantamount to “to obey,” especially in covenant contexts such as this. That is to hear God without putting into effect the command is not to hear him at all.” — Eugene H. Merrill, Deuteronomy, vol. 4, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994), 160–168.
- To Love is to obey. God’s love language is obedience.
- The Lord is one. 1. Unity. 2. God is unique. The One and only.
- How do we keep God as our one and only?

Spiritual Alignment: The Heart of the Matter

- Loving the Lord with all your heart is not rooted in emotion or feeling.
- In Old Testament anthropology, the heart is the seat of the intellect. It is equivalent to the mind.
- Loving God is something we choose.
- At first this sounds impersonal and even emotionless. However, on the other hand it removes this belief that if we don't "feel" a certain way that we must not love God. Love for God is not rooted or based on a feeling. It is rooted in what He has done for us and is demonstrated and practiced through our choices and our obedience. Our feelings of love pour forth from what we believe about God, who he is, what he has done.



A Destination: A Land of Milk and Honey

- These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may **fear the Lord your God as long as you live** by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that **you may enjoy long life**. Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that **it may go well with you** and that **you may increase greatly** in a land **flowing with milk and honey**, just as the Lord, the God of your fathers, promised you. – Deuteronomy 6:1 - 3

A Destination: A Land of Milk & Honey

- We respect, listen to, love and obey God
- Enjoyment
- Long Life
- All is well...Peace, Contentment
- Family, Friends, Community, Fellowship. No one is alone
- Prosperity
- Abundance
- Satisfied



What is the land of milk and honey?

- God has something in mind for us. It's a life of abundance despite scarcity, a sweet life despite bitter circumstances. A promised land, a land of milk and honey. I want us to imagine what that looks like for our families and see what God tells us about how to get there.
- “The phrase ‘milk and honey’ is a hyperbolic way of describing the richness of the land of promise.” - Eugene H. Merrill, Deuteronomy, vol. 4, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994), 162.



Exposure to the light

- Imprinting God's truth through repetition.
- By the time the big stuff happens, you have already laid the ground work.
- When they are older, they don't always want to hear your advice. But when you have imprinted on their hearts and minds what is right and what is wrong and who God is, you can trust that the Holy Spirit will be at work reminding them how to come home.
- Mom's: love your kids no matter what choices they make.