

A graphic illustration featuring a family silhouette crossing a bridge. The family consists of a man, a woman, and two children, all holding hands. The man and the first child are rendered in red, while the woman and the second child are in white. The bridge is depicted as a white path with a textured, stone-like surface, set against a dark, textured background. A large, diagonal red banner cuts across the lower right portion of the image, containing text. The overall style is high-contrast and artistic.

Building Bridges

Deut. 6:4-9
“Building Bridges for
Families to Follow”

Deut. 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:

5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gate.



Our theme for 2016 is “Building Bridges.” We have looked at several aspects of how this applies to us, today. We saw three basic principles:

- Bridges are built to remedy a problem
 - Building bridges requires a plan
- Built bridges results via perseverance



A few weeks ago we went to Job 22:21-30 to consider:

“Building a Spiritual Bridge to Satisfy Our Lives”

Two weeks ago we considered...

“Building Bridges for Generations to Follow”

- THE PREMISE OF RECONCILIATION 5:14-16
- THE PRIVILEGE OF RECONCILIATION, 5:17-19
- THE PERPETUITY OF RECONCILIATION, 5:20-21



Last week, we looked at the life of Jehoshaphat and considered

*“Building Bridges for Generations **NOT** to Follow”*

- COMMITTED CHRISTIANS MUST MAINTAIN VIGILANCE
- COMPROMISED CHRISTIANS ARE VULNERABLE
 - Vulnerability is Always Present
- **Jehoshaphat built bridges with the wrong people = NO principles of discernment and separation.**
- **Jehoshaphat said he wanted to know what God said – but it did not matter enough to dissuade him.**



- **When a backslider runs with the wrong crowd, don't be surprised if the world identifies him with the wrong crowd!**
 - Vulnerability will Affect Posterity
- CONFUSED CHRISTIANS MAY BECOME VICTORIOUS
 - The Mess is usually our Fault
 - The Message utilizes our Faith



This morning, we will continue looking at the future as we consider...

“Building Bridges for Families to Follow”

I. THE CLARITY AND COMMAND OF GOD, 6:4-5

A. The Preeminence and Sovereignty, 6:4

Deut. 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:



B. The Principles Summarized, 6:5

Deut. 6:5 And thou shalt **love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.**

Mt. 22:35 Then one of them, *which was* a lawyer, asked *him a question*, tempting him, and saying,

36 Master, which *is* **the great commandment in the law?**

37 Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.**

38 This is the first and great commandment.

39 And **the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

40 **On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**



- Parents must maintain a bridge built with God before building one with their children.
- Because God is preeminent and sovereign, our love is a reciprocation and reflection of respect.
- How can parents expect to be honored by their children if God, as the heavenly Father, is not honored likewise by parents?
- The children will see what respect looks like, when they see the parent honoring God by obeying Him and His Word.



II. THE COMMAND AND CONTINUITY FOR GOD 6:6-9

Deut. 6:6 And **these words**, which I command thee this day, **shall be in thine heart**:

7 And **thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children**, and shalt **talk of them** when thou **sittest in thine house**, and when thou **walkest by the way**, and when thou **liest down**, and when thou **risest up**.

8 And thou **shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand**, and they shall be **as frontlets between thine eyes**.

9 And thou shalt **write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates**.

A. The Attention Recorded, 6:6-7a

Deut. 6:6 And **these words**, which I command thee this day, **shall be in thine heart**:

7a “And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children...”



- Parents are to distribute from the resources of their heart – “...**these words**...shall be **in thine heart**: (7) And thou shalt **teach them**...”
- Hypocrisy is the infestation of infidelity into the home.
- Complacency is the subtle suppression of spiritual conviction.
- Individual instruction is commanded – “...thou shalt teach them...”
- The effort is expected to be vigorous – “...diligently...”



B. The Action Required, 6:7b-9

Deut. 6:7b "...and shalt **talk of them** when thou **sittest in thine house**, and when thou **walkest by the way**, and when thou **liest down**, and when thou **risest up**.

8 And thou **shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand**, and they shall be **as frontlets between thine eyes**.

9 And thou shalt **write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.**"



- Spiritual parenting requires continual effort for effective spiritual bridge building in the lives of our children.
- Parents require constant reminders of their own spiritual bridges — “...for a sign upon **thine hand**...frontlets between **thine eyes**.”
- Parents need to send a message to others while reinforcing the bridge built with and for God.



Deut. 6:9 And thou shalt **write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.**

Rom. 1:16 For **I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:** for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom. 10:11 For the scripture saith, **Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.**



III. THE CONTINUITY AND COMPASSION FROM GOD

God is faithful and His continuity and consistency never fails. When our home exhibits the spiritual bridges our children needs, the atmosphere exudes with the compassion from God – His love permeates the home and becomes a safe haven for the family to enjoy!

Dr. Adrian Rogers summarized Prov. 22:6:

<http://www.oneplace.com/ministries/love-worth-finding/read/articles/train-up-a-child-in-the-way-he-should-go-10299.html>

Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.



Love Children

Lift Children

Col. 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged.

Original Word: ἄθυμέω

Transliteration: athumeo

Definition: I am discouraged, I lose heart, am despondent, am disheartened.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/120.htm>

to be disheartened, dispirited, broken in spirit

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strong=G120&t=KJV>



Limit Children

Prov. 16:32 *He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and **he that ruleth his spirit** than he that taketh a city.*

Prov. 25:28 **He that hath no rule over his own spirit** *is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.*

Prov. 3:12 For **whom the LORD loveth he correcteth**; even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.

Heb. 12:6 For **whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth**, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.



Lead Children

Laugh with Children

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine" (Proverbs 17:22a).



Conclusion

Eph. 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but **bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**

Jn. 14:15 **If ye love me**, keep my commandments.

Jn. 14:21 **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me:** and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

Jn. 15:10 **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love;** even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.



1 Jn. 5:3 For **this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:** and his commandments are not grievous.

1 Jn. 4:19 **We love him,**
because he first loved us.

