

**Deuteronomy 6:1-9**  
**Matthew 22:34-40**

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5**

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**

**BIBLICAL PASSAGE**

**MEMORY VERSE**

Do you ever get the feeling that your life is just one big list? You go to the grocery store, and then you go to the bank. Next, you drop the kids off at practice. After that, you run by the cleaners. The goal of each day is to see how many things you can check off the to-do list. Your whole life is a giant task.

Read Deuteronomy 6:1–9 and Matthew 22:34–40. Many people have the tendency to live out the commandments as a “do/don’t do list.” But when we exchange our relationship with God for a checkmark, the list becomes our “god.” However, when Jesus came among us, He showed us that living the way God called us to live is all about a love relationship. God’s love flows through us to others.

Jesus reminds us that we are to love God with everything that we are. God has a right to each person’s whole heart, whole life, and whole mind. We do not get to tell Him what parts He can have. Today, as you spend time with your family, ask yourself if there is a part of your heart and life that you are reserving for someone or something else?

Ask God to help you love Him with all your heart so that you can love your child the way He wants you to. Thank Him for giving you the opportunity to live in relationship with Him.

## FAMILY DEVOTION TIME

### Connect . . .

First, family members try to list the Ten Commandments on separate sheets of paper. After each family member is finished, one family member turns to Deuteronomy 5 to see who was closest to listing all the commandments. Then, the teenager tries to list every single rule that governs his or her life (including home rules, school rules, and rules for extracurricular activities). An adult reads: **Of course, remembering every rule is impossible. It was impossible for the Jews to follow all of the Law, as well. Jesus summed up the Law in a pretty clear way.**

### Explore . . .

First, a family member reads Deuteronomy 6:1–9. Then, another family member reads Matthew 22:34-40. Next, a family member reads: **Jesus said we are to love God and love others. Others around us are just as important as we are. If we love God, then His love enables us to get beyond ourselves to remember those around us.**

### Transform . . .

The family develops a symbol to remind each other of the mission God gives believers every day: to love God and love others. This can be as simple as a cross on a Post-it® note. Or, it can be a symbol the family designs from scratch. Display the symbol in a prominent location.

*Pray that your family will realize how God loves you. Pray that you realize how you should respond to that love.*