

# Home Group Study Questions

## History (Making it Personal)

1. As is always a good idea - open your time together with prayer – asking God to speak into your lives and relationships. Pray that you might encourage each other with the potential you have to influence the next generation.
2. Share one of the funniest stories you remember from your childhood…when was it that you saw the raw, uncensored side of your parents? Was there a time of year, or a special occasion when your folks relaxed and really “lived?”
3. If you are a parent yourself, share some of the funny or perhaps sobering times when your child reflected YOU! How did you feel when you heard your own words or actions coming from that little person!?
4. Your parents did (or did not) try to impart spiritual truth into your life. Where did they succeed? How much did their influence shape who you are today?

## Digging Deeper (Looking to the Bible)

5. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-24 to set some context for your discussion. Have someone who knows the story give a quick overview of the background leading up to this final conversation with Moses. Why was it so critical for these people to hear this command at this point in time?
6. Talk for a moment about the “danger” inherent with growing up in a Christian home. How can we ensure that “our” faith gets passed on to our children and that is actually becomes “their” faith?
7. Read Deuteronomy 8:1-20 and talk about the comparisons with our economic and political realities in western Canada – especially vv 12-14. How can we ensure that our prosperity does not destroy us spiritually?
8. The kids who would ask questions of their parents needed to hear how God had worked in their parents lives…why is it so critical for us to tell the stories of God’s faithfulness to the next generation?
9. Read Ephesians 6:4 and talk about the “training and instruction” of the Lord. We seek to ensure the education of our children in every area of their lives… but do we put enough emphasis on their spiritual formation?
10. Do you have a story of great faith? Was there a time in your life where God was SO REAL and SO ALIVE in you and in your circumstances that it was almost tangible? Have you shared those stories? Are our children missing out on meeting with God in these powerful ways?
11. Read 1 Corinthians 11:1 and ask around the circle why we would find it uncomfortable to repeat these words of our own lives?

## Taking It Home (Application)

12. Confession time…! Have you tended to rely too heavily on outside influences to spiritually “parent” your children? Have you expected the “church” to take the place that you should have rightly taken? Have you been willing to be actively involved in your child’s spiritual education?
13. Spend some time in prayer for the next generation…your kids…other peoples’ kids…that the Holy Spirit would show up – and make Himself real and powerful in our lives. What would it look like if our kids were on FIRE for Christ?
14. Pray that as adults, we too might encounter Jesus in a whole new way. How long has it been – since you met with the Lord? How long has it been since the fire burned bright in your heart? What are you doing to ignite those flames anew?