



## Head to Heart Series Intro: Let's Face Reality, Deuteronomy 6:1-9; I Peter 3:15

Kent Vincent January 3, 2021

### Is "The Greatest Commandment" worth passing on? Deuteronomy 6:1-9

#### Situation Report: According to surveys, what young people in church think about:

- **God:** The majority do not view the God of the Bible as the only true God or that there is any way to know which religion is true.
- **Truth:** Of those who accept biblical teaching, many believe it is a truth for them because they chose it, but that it is not true for those who choose another path. This is the subtle influence of "post-modernism".
- **Reality:** Paradoxically, many will say that they want what is "*real, relevant and works for them now*". But what really "*works*"?

#### Belief is not enough!

- They must not only know WHAT to believe, but WHY.
- Knowing what the Bible says is ESSENTIAL, but it is not SUFFICIENT for a Christian walk in an antagonistic world.
- Beliefs must go from the HEAD to the HEART. Deuteronomy 6.
- In other words, to withstand peer pressure, ridicule, even persecution, their BELIEFS must become CONVICTIONS.

#### WHAT TO DO?

Of course, we should be FAITHFUL to pass on God's truth found in His Word to succeeding generations. However, we also want to be EFFECTIVE.

#### I Peter 3:15-

- "Faithful" = *always being prepared to make a defense (apologia) to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you;*
- "Effective" = *yet do it (defend the gospel) with gentleness and respect.*

To be EFFECTIVE with others, especially with children and grandchildren, in addition to knowledge, we must develop RELATIONSHIP, CONNECTION, TRUST and INFLUENCE.

#### SUMMARY of the GOAL of the series:

- UNDERSTAND the importance of passing on genuine faith to avoid the "sin-natural" tendency of succeeding generations to drift away;
- ASCERTAIN where we are personally at present in the generational chain; and,
- FORTIFY our own faith and develop genuine relationships to be faithful, but also effective in passing on real convictions to our children and grandchildren.