

The Fundamental Command of Our Homes & Lives November 1, 2009

Heidelberg Catechism - Lord's Day 34 (Q&A 94, 95)
Deuteronomy 6

Pastor Garry Eriks
Hudsonville Protestant Reformed Church
www.hudsonvilleprc.org

Introduction

1. The essence of the law is contained in this first commandment: Godward direction and focus.
2. The first commandment because it encapsulates the covenant, godly instruction we must give our children.

Why This is Important

1. This command is so important in our lives and homes because of the danger of idolatry.
 - a. All men are created worshippers. Romans 1:18, 19
 - b. This is important to understand in our homes because this means that we and our children respond to God in one of two ways: in faith or suppressing the truth.
2. As parents, we have the calling to shepherd by pointing out the God who alone is worthy of our worship.
 - a. *The Lord our God is one Lord* (Deut 6:4). This is your God, the God whom you must worship.
 - b. We must teach our children that this God is Jehovah, our faithful covenant God.

What It Demands

1. God demands that we and our children remove our idols from our lives. Deuteronomy 6:12-15, Ezekiel 14:6-8
 - a. What is idolatry?
 - b. This is the battle of our hearts and our lives and in our homes in the small moments of life.
2. The 1st commandment calls us to love, fear and glorify our God with all our hearts.
 - a. This means that we must love and worship our God: my life is all about Him!
 - b. Because my life must be all about God and His glory, I must obey Him.

How This is Possible

1. My the Word of God touch our hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit to convict each one of us of the idolatry of our hearts.
2. In Christ, we and our children are set free from idolatry to serve our living God.