

## ALTARING YOUR HOME

TEXT: (Deuteronomy 6:6-9, MSG)

<sup>6</sup> Write these commandments that I've given you today on your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Get them inside of you and then get them inside your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning to when you fall into bed at night. <sup>8</sup> Tie them on your hands and foreheads as a reminder; <sup>9</sup> inscribe them on the doorposts of your homes and on your city gates.

### I. NOAH—AN ALTAR BUILDER

#### A. Noah Was an Altar Builder

1. "So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on the earth—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it" (Genesis 8:18-20, NIV).

2. "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33, NIV).

#### B. Noah Found God's Favor

1. "The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. So the LORD said, 'I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them.' But Noah found favor (grace) in the eyes of the LORD.
2. "Come near to God and he will come near to you" (James 4:8, NIV).

#### C. Blessed of God

1. "Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth" (Genesis 9:1, NIV).

### II. WORSHIP IN THE HOME

#### A. Establishing an Alter—The First Order of Business

1. "Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it" (Genesis 8:20, NIV).
2. "The LORD appeared to Abram and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land.' So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him" (Genesis 12:7, NIV).
3. "With eyes wide open to the mercies of God, I beg you, my brothers, as an act of intelligent worship, to give him your bodies, as a living sacrifice, consecrated to him and acceptable by him. Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God re-mould your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity" (Romans 12:1-2, PHILLIPS).

B. It Is the Father's Role as the Spiritual Leader

1. "I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also" (II Timothy 1:5, NIV).

C. Studying the Word and Prayer

1. "Write these commandments that I've given you today on your hearts. Get them inside of you and then get them inside your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning to when you fall into bed at night. Tie them on your hands and foreheads as a reminder; inscribe them on the doorposts of your homes and on your city gates" (Deuteronomy 6:4-8, NIV).
2. "I reach out for your commands, which I love, that I may meditate on your decrees" (Psalms 119:48, NIV).

CONCLUSION

1. If Noah was the subject of your devotion, here are some possible questions to answer and topics to discuss together:
  - a. What do you believe were some of the characteristics in Noah's life that caused the LORD to look upon him with favor? (Reread Genesis 8:20)
  - b. Discuss what may have been the reasons that Noah's adult children served God and others didn't?
  - c. Discuss as a family how you can remain spiritually strong when you have to walk all alone—maybe no one else in your school.
  - d. Reread Deuteronomy 6:4-8—generate some ideas as to how you make the Word of the LORD more visible in your home.
  - e. Pray together. Take prayer requests. Pray for one another. Pray for a miracle. Pray that someone receive the Holy Ghost right at home.