



Touching Lives  
with James Merritt



**SERMON SINGLES**

# Touching Lives with Dr. James Merritt

## Family Feud

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

### INTRODUCTION

There is no question that Covid-19 has had a tremendous effect on our nation financially, economically, physically, spiritually, and emotionally. From the very beginning when we were asked to isolate, stay at home, and put ourselves under quarantine for the foreseeable future, sociologists, mental health experts, and others predicted that we would see a tremendous strain in the home, particularly within marriages and the family as a whole. I'm sure you and I can agree that these experts were right. We're all dealing with plenty of tension, conflict, and uneasiness with those closest to us, particularly our children. But how can we view this season as a chance to influence and impact our kids, rather than grow impatient with them? How can we leverage this time with them for the Kingdom of God? That's exactly what we're going to look at in this message.

### KEY POINTS

#### 1. We Are To Be A Model For Our Children

As Moses is talking in today's key passage, the first thing he says to parents is they are to take the lessons God has taught them and they are to do them, not just pass them down to their kids. They are to model them for their kids.

The only role models your kids should ever have are you and your spouse. One thing I learned about parenting over the years is that character is not so much taught to your children as it is caught by your children. The way you live in front of your child will speak so loudly that many times your children will never hear anything you say. But if you take the attitude towards your child of "Don't do as I do. Do as I say do" you are doomed for failure.

#### 2. We Are To Be A Mirror For Our Children

One of our greatest responsibilities as parents is for us to mirror for our children a love for God. We need to let them know from the time they are very young that God is the supreme love of our lives, and that God is to be the supreme love of their lives. We are to mirror for them what a love for God looks like.

### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Touching Lives with Dr. James Merritt

**Family Feud**

*Deuteronomy 6:1-9*

**NOTES**

This is where you must remember that before you were parents, you were husbands and wives. Your promise to each other is to be a mirror that reflects God’s faithfulness to you. Your love for each other is to be a mirror that reflects God’s love for you. Your forgiveness of each other when things go wrong is to be a mirror of God’s forgiveness of you.

We are not to be a mirror that simply reflects a good life to our children; we are to be a mirror that reflects a godly life for our children. Remember, God does not want us to be good parents. God wants us to be godly parents.

**3. We Are To Be A Mentor To Our Children**

As Moses wraps up this particular passage of Scripture, he gives parents their assignment. He lets them know that home is to be a school from which your kids don’t graduate until they leave home. This may shock you, but the primary responsibility for educating your kids does not lie with the school system or even with the church. It lies with you at home.

God intended for the home to be the university of life and for you to be the professors. Home is the child’s first classroom. This is where right and wrong are taught. This is where children learn that actions have consequences. This is where kids learn personal responsibility. This is where they are taught to be kind, courteous, submit to authority, be obedient, practice selflessness, how to love God and how to love others. Therefore, it is your responsibility as their parent to take ownership of teaching them these things and mentoring them as they learn and grow in knowledge and wisdom.

A series of horizontal lines for taking notes.

# Touching Lives with Dr. James Merritt

## **Family Feud**

*Deuteronomy 6:1-9*

### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1. If you had to grade yourself on what kind of model you've been for your children so far, what would your grade be?
2. What have you been mirroring about God to your kids? What haven't you been mirroring about God that you would like to start mirroring for your kids?
3. What is one practical way you can begin mentoring your children and teaching them godly knowledge and wisdom that they can take with them as they grow up?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---