

A Word from Pastor Laura, District Children's Quizzing Director

I wonder sometimes if our time period will be known for how fast and easy we tried to make everything in our lives. Fast-food, two-day shipping, Microwave meals, and Insta-cart... these have all made our lives "easier." As a working mom, it is easy to fall into the trap of going with what is easy. I work, yet I still have homework, laundry, cleaning, and cooking waiting when I get home. We can keep up the pace for so long before decisions have to be made. Over the last few years, instead of asking "What is easy?" I have started asking, "What is actually good for my family?"

In trying to find space, time, and peace, it is easy to drop hard things but so many times the easy things leave me feeling guilty. Bible quizzing is not always an easy thing. It takes time each week to study. It takes time to drive and go to Quiz Meets. There have been times that my kids have asked to stop quizzing because they didn't want to study. However, I will never forget hearing my son singing Bible verses while he played with his toys. He wasn't quizzing yet, but he heard the songs playing while riding in the car or when we practiced at home.

Deuteronomy 6 commands us to teach our children to "Love God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Duet. 6:5). In verse 7, we hear the command to "Impress this on your children. Talk about it when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols..." Bible Quizzing has been this avenue for my family. We sing the memory verses and listen to the scripture as we ride to doctor's appointments or grocery store trips. It has opened up conversations, where my now sixth grader is remembering and connecting Matthew and Acts to things she learned from Genesis as a kindergartener. My kids might spontaneously burst into singing scripture if a word or phrase triggers their memory. My oldest was pestering the youngest today, and my middle remembered and sang a scripture that fit the situation.

It would be so easy to stop and not persevere, but I see the seeds sown in my children's lives because of this program. Parents, guardians, and grandparents, I challenge you, don't pick easy. Pick what is good. Pick what will bring your children closer to knowing this wonderful God we serve. Pick what will help your children remember the Scriptures. Pick what is good and ask God to help you persevere. I think of the hymn lyrics, "It will be worth it all when we see Jesus." It might be hard now, but it will be worth it to see our kids meet Jesus.