

# Connecting Church and Home

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Quarter 4, Week 13 :: **The Pentateuch**

## Treasure Story: Genesis–Deuteronomy

It's a strange thing about humans—we often rebel against what is best for us. A good example of this is the overall narrative of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible). The plot boils down to God desiring to make His dwelling place with man and man refusing to submit to God's glory and power. This rebellion happened in the Garden of Eden, it happened at Mount Sinai, and it happens every time God pursues us and we refuse Him. The amazing thing about God is that He is relentless and pursues us until He subjects our hearts to His grace and mercy.

## Connect

"God is gracious. He owes us nothing. And he pursues us for the purpose of relationship."  
- Mark Driscoll

The Pentateuch often goes back to the theme of God desiring to dwell with man, man refusing God's authority, and God subduing the sinfulness of man despite their rebellion. This narrative teaches much about ourselves. We are rebels by nature, but God can subdue our sin and reconcile us to Himself. Here are a few suggestions to keep these truths fresh in your mind and in the minds of your children.

- **Authority Issues:** Discuss with your children how we all by nature rebel against authority. Children struggle to obey parents, and parents struggle to obey those who are in authority over them, such as a boss or someone in the government. Admit to your children that submitting to authority is hard. But we should always encourage each other to submit to God's authority.
- **The Limp:** Despite our rebellion against God's authority, He has a way of subduing us although at a cost. No matter who we are, when God finally enables us to submit our will to His, we always walk away a different and sometimes wounded person. Remind your children about the story of Jacob wrestling with God and walking away with a limp. Even if we don't suffer a physical limitation, we have to die to ourselves in order for our hearts to be subdued.

## My Mission As Parent

- Do you see yourself as a rebel? It is easy to point out our children's disobedience, but do we see it in ourselves first?
- Despite the difficulty of subduing sin, remind yourself that God's grace is greater than our sin. He is mighty to save and to sanctify.

## Prayer Points

- Ask the Lord to help you to acknowledge your rebellion against Him and your unwillingness to abide with Him on His terms.
- Pray for the Lord to help you see His pursuit of your heart and His faithfulness to you.
- Pray with your children and ask the Lord to give your family hope. No matter how hard the struggle is to subdue your sin, God's grace will always win.