



May 10, 2026 | Matt Magee

Series: Acorns to Oaks: The Worshiping Family

Sermon: That they Might Set their Hope in God, Part 2

Main Scriptures: Deut 6:4-9; Psalm 78

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CHURCH BODY HIGHLIGHTS

1. Review this week's **Newsletter**

OUTLINE

Introduction: Revisit the difference between a printed roadmap and a compass. A physical roadmap gives you a detailed layout of the highways and byways to get from point A to point B, but it cannot help you when you are lost in the woods. A compass, on the other hand, works precisely because it is tethered to a power outside itself. Rather than giving our children an exhausting, temporary roadmap, we were meant to hand our children a generational compass.

- **There's an opportunity for change for us here.** Rather than living burdened by the idol of control and managing our family's temporal success while hiding behind religious masks, what if we could experience the freedom to lay down that worry and relax into a posture of walking honestly and openly with the Lord? That is the opportunity we get to explore today!

Icebreaker: What is the most memorable experience you've ever had getting completely lost while relying on a GPS or a physical map?

1. Principle (What is True?)

- Last week, we established that we get to pass down the record of God's faithfulness so that the next generation might place their ultimate hope in Him. How does viewing the Gospel as a generational compass change the way we approach family life, compared to viewing faith as a roadmap of behavioral rules?
- Let's look beyond Psalm 78 to **Deuteronomy 6:4-7**. How does this cross-reference reinforce the wonderful reality that we aren't just managing our

children's behavior, but we are actively handing them the compass of God's Word in everyday moments?

2. Problem (How do we resist?)

- **Psalm 78:36–37** reveals that the Israelites flattered God with their mouths, but their hearts were not steadfast. When we forget God's works, how do we trade a living hope for the idol of control or profound indifference?
- Read **Proverbs 3:5-6**. In what areas of life do you find yourself secretly believing you know better than God, placing your functional hope in managing temporal success (like academics, sports, or social standing) rather than trusting Him?

3. Gospel (How does Jesus redeem?)

- If this passage only exposed our controlling hearts, it would leave us crushed under the weight of our own failure. Read **John 10:11-14**. How does knowing that Jesus is the Good Shepherd relieve the crushing weight of having to "save" our kids or manage their futures?
- Read **2 Corinthians 5:21**. On the cross, a great exchange took place. How does it encourage your heart to know that Jesus absorbed the judgment for our hypocrisy to secure for us a hope grounded in His grace alone?

4. Response (What do we get to do?)

- Because our future is secure in Christ, we are free to lead our families with a joyful testimony that invites them to rest their hope in Him. Read **Matthew 11:28-30**. How does shifting from the fear of a false religion to the grace of Christ empower us to simply trust Him?
- What does it look like practically this week to live like a tour guide who points the way, elevating the glorious deeds of the Lord right in the middle of your ordinary, everyday schedule? Think about family, time at church, living as Christians in your neighborhood . . . other situations . . . before reading the hints below.
 - *Family*: Relaxing into a posture of walking honestly with the Lord, apologizing to your kids when you lose your temper, modeling repentance.
 - *Church*: Engaging kids in corporate worship as a joyful invitation, not just a behavior management exercise.
 - *Workplace/Neighborhood*: Displaying a calm, steadfast hope in Christ rather than frantic anxiety about temporal success, inviting others to ask about the "compass" that guides you.

D. Conclusion

- **Summary:** We are free from the exhausting idol of control and the endless burden of crafting temporary roadmaps for our families. Instead, we get to hand the next generation a multi-generational compass, trusting that God will faithfully draw them to Himself.
- **Gospel Stamp:** Because Jesus has graciously atoned for our unsteadfast hearts, we are now empowered to lead not with a demand for outward perfection, but with a joyful testimony of His grace. Don't just read this; take a minute to really let this soak in.
- **Closing Prayer:** *Father, thank You that when we were lost in the woods of our own control and moralism, You provided the Good Shepherd. Thank You, Jesus, for absorbing the penalty for our hypocrisy and crediting to us Your perfect record of faithfulness. Holy Spirit, empower us this week to lay down our exhausting roadmaps. Give us the joy and freedom to live openly before You, pointing our families and neighbors to the glorious deeds of our gracious God. Amen.*