IT'S COMPLICATED
Message: "Making the Countdown Count"
Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Proverbs 22:6
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Read Deut. 6:1-9

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:4-5

The Shema

"Shema" in Hebrew is translated to "**Hear**" or "**Listen**."

To fully "Shema" means to **listen,** pay attention, and **respond to.**

The call of Deuteronomy 6:1-9 is not only to personally live out the Shema but to also **pass it** on to the **next generation**.

*"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you **sit** at home and when you **walk** along the road, when you **lie down** and when you **get up**."*
Deuteronomy 6:6-7

"Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." Deuteronomy 6:9

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not part from it."   Proverbs 22:6 (NIV 84)

Three powers that you have…

1. The power to set the **example**.

2. The power to give an **apology**.

3. The power to **invest**.

It is approximately **936 weeks** from **birth till high school graduation**.

- Once Kindergarten starts – **624** weeks

- At the start of 6th grade – **364** weeks

- At the start of High School – **208** weeks

- And Parents of Seniors this next year – **52** weeks

When you see how much time you have left, you tend to get serious about the time you have now. -Reggie Joiner (CEO Orange)

This is the responsibility of the **family** and the **church**.

What if we were to seek 5 caring adults to invest in the spiritual journey of one kid?

The truth is that a **willing heart** is a **game changer**.

So where do we go from here?...

1. Let's shema the **Shema**.

2. Let's make the countdown **count**.

3. Let's invest in the next **generation**.

4. Let's identify the **5**.

Bottom line…
May we be a Church who will shema the Shema as we make the countdown count!