



Loving God – Sunday, August 12th

SCRIPTURE:

Mark 12:30

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

Psalms 37:4

Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Luke 7:36-48

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said. Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet.⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little." Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

Matthew 15:8

"This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me".

Sermon Points:

- *Loving God for who he is.*
- *Loving God is a delight not a duty.*
- *Loving God for what he has done.*
- *A singing people.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Where is your favorite place to sing (Shower, car, etc.) and what is your “go to” song to sing?
 2. When you hear the words, “Loving God” what is the first thing that comes to your mind?
 3. Who is God to you personally and what does it mean to love God for who he is?
 4. Is your love for God more of a delight or a duty right now and why?
 5. How does receiving forgiveness lead to loving God more?
 6. What is the relationship between loving God and worshiping God?
 7. What is one thing God spoke to your heart today? What is God calling you to do in response to what you heard?
- Action Step: Start off each day this week by saying, “God I love you because...” (fill in the blank with whatever comes to your mind. It might be who God is or something he’s done. Examples – God I love you because you are faithful, trustworthy and good. God I love you because you first loved me.)
 - If you need help figuring out your “next steps,” including finding a counselor or a Small Group connection, then email connect@covechurch.com.