

Defusing a Bomb

The Pharisees had 613 commandments, Moses gave them ten, but Jesus boiled it down to two.

They're Easy to See

The Shema

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

You know what you need to know!

They're About a Relationship

It's not knowing about someone, but knowing someone

How do you relate to someone you love?

Talking to them

Spending time with them

Obeying them

Sacrificing for them

(space for notes)

They're Possible

It's possible through the Spirit

Romans 8:4 “[he died], in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

It's possible through faith

1 Timothy 1:5 “The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.”

“Even though imperfect, this Spirit-dependent, Christ-exalting love... is the true and real direction of life the law required. In this life, we have new direction, not full perfection. This direction *is* what the law demands on the way to perfection.” – John Piper

This is the best part of Christianity, and it's possible for you

They're About a New Orientation

St. Augustine – “*Incurvatus in se*” – translated “curved in on oneself”

An others-focused life because God is others-focused

Questions for Personal Study

1. Do you know about God, or do you know God? Do you love him?
2. How is having a relationship with God different than keeping a bunch of rules?
3. How do we know keeping this command is possible? Does that mean we do it perfectly?
4. Is your life curved inward or outward? How does God's love set us free from self-love?