

March 29th 2020

The Real Jesus

Greatest commandment Part II - A Radical Command

Matthew 22: 34-40, The Greatest Commandment, ³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

All sin comes from a desire to _____ regardless of _____ and _____.

My life should be about serving _____, then serving _____ as much as I serve _____.

"Love God with all your heart" means:

Find in God a _____ so profound that it fills up all your _____.

"Love God with all your soul" means:

Find in God your true _____ so that it fills up all the aching corners of your _____.

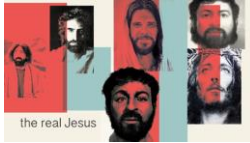
"Love God with all your mind" means:

Find in God the true _____, _____ and _____ to guide your _____.

Life Application

Could you describe your life as a conduit of love and joy? Is your life SO FILLED with love and joy from God that it naturally overflows into other people?

Be honest and realign your life where needed. If you need to spend more time with God to be filled with Him, start realigning your time. If you're filled with God, but love is not flowing to others, find a way to give away more of you to others.



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Theme: Greatest commandment Part II - A Radical Command

READ: Matthew 22: 34-40

1. Why is this a radical command?
2. If we really think about our life are there things you could consider selfish desires?
3. Pastor Adam said, "The root of our sinfulness is the desire for our own happiness regardless of what God wants and often regardless of what others want. If you look at it in the light of Scripture? Do you agree? Why or why not?"

All sin comes from a desire to be happy regardless of God and others.

READ: The 10 Commandment

4. Would you agree that we may love some commandments, but others we find difficult? Why?
5. All people everyone of us, have selfish desires, agree or disagree?

DISCUSS THIS:

Pride is the passion to be happy contaminated by two things:

- a. The unwillingness to see God as the only source of true and lasting joy,
- b. The unwillingness to see other people as designed by God to receive our joy in him.

If you take the desire to be happy and strip God away from it as the source, it makes pride in self or others the source! Pride is the pursuit of happiness anywhere but in God and for the good of other people.

6. This is the root of all sin. How so?

We all have a powerful instinct of self-preservation and self-fulfillment. We all want to be happy, to live and to live with satisfaction. We want food, clothes, a place to live, protection from violence, meaningful or pleasant activities, friends who like you and spend time with you. You want your life to count in some way. All this is loving yourself.

A Quote from Pastor Adam... Self-love is the deep longing to diminish pain and to increase personal happiness. Everyone, without exception, has this human trait. Jesus says part of the shift we need begins with our inherent self-centered love. This is a common desire to all people. You don't have to learn it. It comes with your humanity and if it comes with humanity it means God created it. So, it is NOT inherently evil. Whether it has become evil in your life will be exposed as you hear and respond to Jesus' commandment, "As you love, as you care for, as you treat yourself, do the same for your neighbor."

My life should be about serving GOD foremost, then serving others as much as I serve my own interests.

1. It's the first commandment that makes the second commandment doable. How? The second commandment is a visible expression of the first commandment.

DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

- a. "Love God with all your heart" means: Find in God a satisfaction so profound that it fills up all your heart.
 - b. "Love God with all your soul" means: Find in God your true purpose so that it fills up all the aching corners of your soul.
 - c. "Love God with all your mind" means: Find in God the true knowledge, insight and wisdom to guide your decisions.
2. Jesus is commanding that our inborn self-seeking, which has now been transformed into God-seeking.... will naturally overflow and extend itself to our love for others! What might this look like?
 3. Do you see why this is a RADICAL commandment that cuts to the root of sin and our selfish desire?

Life Application

Could you describe your life as a conduit of love and joy? Is your life SO FILLED with love and joy from God that it naturally overflows into other people? Be honest and realign your life where needed. If you need to spend more time with God to be filled with Him start realigning your time.