



The 2nd Greatest Commandment: Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

August 3, 2025



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

"Jesus, Of all the commandments, which is most important?"

- *The Greatest Commandment is to love God with everything in you.*

This would be one of the questions that would grip mankind

"God... What is required of me?"



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

(Mark 12:29-31 NIV) "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. (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.'

- This Commandment is a call to love God wholly and completely*
- We are to give God all our love; keeping none back for ourselves.*



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

Mark 12:31 (NIV) — 31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

Matthew 22:39–40 (NIV) — 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

1. We are to love God ***more than*** ourselves, and our neighbor ***as*** ourselves
2. The life that really counts is life that is concerned first with God, then with others.
3. Love God --- Love People!!



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1. There Is No Greater Commandment Than These
2. On These Two Commandments The Whole Law & The Prophets Depend
3. Who Is Our Neighbor? Our Neighbor Is “The One Who Is Nearby”

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



- *“NEIGHBOR” in the Greek (plesion) is "all inclusive."
It includes people in general*
- *NEIGHBOR refers to any person we meet, regardless of their location or circumstances.*
- *We have no trouble loving ourselves, but this passage calls on us to love others with the same quality of love!*

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



- ***We Are To Love God More Than Ourselves, And Our Neighbor As Ourselves.***
- *We can't obey the 2nd Greatest Commandment if we don't first obey the Greatest Commandment.*

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



- *Paul Said, “Love Never Fails”*
- *Things In Life Are Not Perfect. They Are Eventually Going To Fail*
- *There Is Something That Never Fails: Love Never Fails*

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



- ***Love Is Important -- With Love Many Things Grow***
- ***Without Love Things Wither And Die.***
- **If You Want To Grow Something! Let The Love Flow!**



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

1 Cor 13:4-8;13 (NIV) "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud." (5) "It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." (6) "Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth." (7) "It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." (8) **"Love never fails."** But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away."

1 Cor 13:13 (NIV) "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. **But the greatest of these is love.**"

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



In The New Testament Times, There Were Three Words For Love.

1. Eros
2. Phileos
3. Agape

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

EROS = “What Can I Get Out Of This?”

PHILEOS = “What Can We Get Out Of This?”

AGAPE = “What Can You Get Out Of This?”





Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

Eros: Loves When it Benefits Me

Phileos: Loves Because it Benefits Us

Agape: Loves When It Benefits Others--It May Not Benefit Me At All

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



Agape Enables Us To Love God With Everything In Us And Love Our Neighbors As Ourselves

- Agape is the highest kind of love
- It is love that is a decision to love – fully and freely
- It is not motivated by appearance, attraction or sentiment.
- A love that loves regardless of the circumstances,

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

LOVE IS:

Patient

Kind

Rejoices In Truth

Always Protects

Always Trusts

Always Hopes

Always Perseveres

LOVE IS NOT:

Envious

Boastful

Proud

Rude

Self-Seeking

Easily Angered

Recording Wrongs

Delighting In Evil

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



Love Proves Whether What We Have Is Real

When We Demonstrate Real Love, The World Knows That
What We Have Is Genuine

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

Love Will Create Opportunities To Share Christ

Real (Godly) Love Is Dramatically Different From The World's Love

Real Love Provides A Positive Reflection Of Christ



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



The World's Love Is Based On The Ability To Manipulate And Control -- It Is Love With A Dark Side

God's Love Is Based On Truth And Purity

- ***There Is No Dark Side To God's Love=Pure Love***



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

God's Love Allows You to Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

It Is A Love That Says No Matter What You May Do Or What You May Have Done "I Love You"

Whether You Respond As I Want You To Or Not -- Whether I Get Anything Out Of This Or Not --" I Love You"



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

The World's Love = Give In Order To Get

God's Love = Given Freely -- Without Consideration

Mat 11:28 (NIV) ""Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



(1 John 4:8 NIV) "Whoever does not love does not know God, because **God is love.**"

(1 John 4:16 NIV) "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. **God is love.** Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him."



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

The World's Love = Criteria Continually Changes

God's Love = Is Unchanging Truth

John 3:16 (NIV) ""For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

Jesus Puts A High Premium On True Love

We Are Commanded To Be People Of Love

John 13:34 (NIV) "'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.'"
(35) "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

The Prime Example Of Love Is Jesus

A Love That Loves God And Loves People

John 15:12 (NIV) "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." (13) "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

Jesus Does Everything Out Of A Heart Of Love

He Said "Father Forgive Them"

- Love That Is Victorious
- Love That Is Undefeatable
- Love That Is Undeniable



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself



The Purpose For Love

Many People Today Are Hurting -- They Need Love:

- Undeniable Love
- Undefeatable Love
- Powerful Love

Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

Jesus Loved The Unlovely

He Loved Those Who Hated Him And Caused All Of His Problems

The N.T. Church Caught This Vision:

- ***They Gave***
- ***They Shared***
- ***They Grew***
- ***Because They Loved!***



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

We Need More Love Displayed Today:

- ***Love That Goes Out Of It's Way***
- ***Love That Goes The Second Mile***
- ***Love That Forgets Wrongs & Overcomes Offense***
- ***Love That Our World So Desperately Needs***

