

Open It!

Who is your most memorable neighbor? And why?

Read It!

Mark 12:28-34

Discuss It!

Did you know that the Scribes and Pharisees identified 613 commands in the Old Testament Law that they believed all Jews were obligated to obey?

What did the Scribe, a teacher of the law ask Jesus (12:28)?

What commands did Jesus identify as most important for God's people to obey (12:29-31; See Deuteronomy 6:4-5 and Leviticus 19:18)?

Is one of first importance and the other of second importance or are both of equal importance? What statement of Jesus gives us the answer (12:31)?

Why do you think Jesus links these two commands as of greatest importance?

How did the Scribe view Jesus' answer (12:32)?

What does God value more highly than sacrifices and offerings (12:33; See 1 Samuel 15:22; Psalm 40:6-10; and Micah 5:6-8)?

What did Jesus mean when He said to the teacher, "You are not far from the kingdom of God" (12:34)?

How does our love for God help us love our neighbor?

Live It!

Join the movement to BLESS your neighbor!



Begin with Prayer
Listen to Understand
Eat Together
Show them Love
Share the Good News

Words to Live By

Love Your Neighbor

Mark 12:28-34

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Today's Word to Live By:

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'³¹ The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:30-31 (ESV)

Sermon Sentence

God has Sovereignly Determined the Time and Place of All People that They Might Know Him, so Love Your Neighbors!

God Has Sovereignly Determined the Time and Place of All People

And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place...

Acts 17:26 (ESV)

God has Sovereignly Determined the Time and Place of All
People **that They Might Know Him,**

*...that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward
him and find him.*

Acts 17:27 (ESV)

God has Sovereignly Determined the Time and Place of All
People that They Might Know Him, **so Love Your Neighbors!**

*And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and
with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your
strength.’³¹ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as
yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”*

Mark 12:30–31 (ESV)

Prayer

*Heavenly Father, You have sovereignly determined the times
and places where I live, study, and work. You have used your
people, your Word, and the circumstances of my life to draw me
to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Today I ask you to use
me to help my neighbors, coworkers, family members and
friends to experience the same. Teach me to pray and love my
neighbor, so that they might seek, reach out, and discover Your
love for them through Jesus Christ, Your Son. In whose name I
pray, Amen.*

Resource

The Art of Neighboring by Jay Pathak & Dave Runyon