



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



The Greatest Commandment

Mathew 22: 34-45



Mathew 22: 34-45

[34] But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. [35] And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. [36] "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"



[37] And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind[38] This is the great and first commandment. [39] And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. [40] On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”



[41] Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, [42] saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” [43] He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

“‘The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’?”



[45] If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" [46]
And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from
that day did anyone dare to ask him any more
questions. (ESV)



Frustrated. Fed Up. Grasping In Darkness.

The Lord sees you and today's passage is for you.



How do we prioritize our lives?

God, work, family, church, golf, volleyball, LifeGroup, two-stepping, vacation, savings, ministry, re | engage, retirement, college, hospitality, widows, orphans, rest, fun, music.

What has God told us is the priority order?



The Bible

Old Testament – 39 Books – Written Before Christ

New Testament – 27 Books – Written After Christ

First Five Books of the Old Testament – “The Law”

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy

Contain 613 Commandments



Romans 3:20

For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.



Mathew 22:35

[35] And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question
to test him.



John 8:32

“and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”



Matthew 22:36-38

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.



Deuteronomy 6:5

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your might.



Heart, Soul, Mind, & Strength

This is an ancient commonly used idiom meaning:

With All You Have – With Your Whole Person



What has Gold told us is the appropriate priority?

First Love Him with every part of your being.



1 John 4:8

“God is Love”



How does our culture define love?

To accept someone fully, as they have fully accepted themselves, without change and to affirm them in every thought, word, and action.



What is the biblical definition of love?

self-giving for the benefit of others

- Grudem Systematic Theology 12:7



Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



So how do we know we love God?

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” - John 14:15

The example

“but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father...” - John 14:31



SO THEN, how do we love God with every part of our being?

We do what he asks of us

What does he ask of us?

“And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”



How do we love our neighbors as ourselves?

[12] “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that someone **lay down his life for his friends**. [14] You are my friends if you do what I command you. [15] No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends,



How do we love our neighbors as ourselves?

for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. [16] You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. [17] These things I command you, so that you will love one another. – John 15:12-17



How did Jesus love his friends?

1. He lays down His life for them
2. All that He knew of the Father, He told them
3. He chose them





How many of the people in those homes do you love like Jesus?

1. You have forsaken your own desires for their benefit
2. You've shared with them all that God has shared with you
3. You've chosen to care for them regardless of response



By what authority can Jesus ask this of me?

[41] Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, [42] saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” [43] He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

“‘The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’?”



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Application

Frustrated. Impatient. Boastful. Rude. Insisting on your way. Irritable. Resentful. Rejoicing at your enemies pain.

These are not of God. They're of you.

Love endures all things and believes all things are being worked out for your good and God's Glory.



Application

Repent

Ask God to change your heart towards your neighbor

Seek out a neighbor



The Helper – John 15: 15-17

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.



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