

Love Others

Matthew 22:37-40

I. The Supreme Command: Love God and Love Others

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. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."
Matthew 22:37-40

II. A New Command: Love Like Jesus Loved Us

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know you are My disciples, if you love one another. John 13:34-35
By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. I John 3:16, 18

- The Newness of Jesus' command
- The Ultimate Proof that we Love God (I John 4:7-8)
- Empowered to Love (Romans 5:5; John 15:9-17; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15)

III. God's Love on Display: A New Community

- Bear with One Another: (Ephesians 4:1-3)
- Serve One Another (Galatians 5:13; I Peter 4:10)
- Exhort One Another (Hebrews 3:12-13)

ONE THING:

In light of what we have just learned from God's Word this morning, what is ONE THING God is calling you to do?

For Further Study

1. Jesus made it clear that His true followers love people. Here are a few passages that explicitly lay this out for us—if we love Jesus, we will love people: **John 13:35; I John 2:9-10; 3:10; 14; 4:7-8.**
2. Loving others is not something we always do naturally, but when we are introduced to Jesus and His love through the Gospel, we are changed, and we are empowered to love people. Here are some passages that teach us how God does this: **2 Corinthians 5:14-15** (compelled to love by Jesus' love for us); **Romans 5:5** and **Galatians 5:22-23** (empowered by the Holy Spirit to love others); **John 15:9-17** (experiencing Jesus' love for us unleashes us to be able to love others).
3. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said: "Nothing can be more cruel than the tenderness that consigns another to his sin. Nothing can be more compassionate than the severe rebuke that calls a brother back from the path of sin". One example of loving is the practice of helping each other avoid the deceitfulness of sin. Look at **Galatians 6:1-2; Hebrews 3:12-13; and Ephesians 4:11-16**, and examine the relationships in your life --who have you granted access into your life so they could help you experience victory over sin?
4. Loving others and serving others are vitally linked in the Bible. Look at these passages, (**John 13:1-17; Galatians 5:13; I John 3:18**), and examine your life to see where you are living selflessly—truly serving others.

Connecting with Others @ Parkview:

- Community Groups: CG Link in chapel, fill out a card at Parkview Connect
- College Students: Campus Groups—24/7 (lunch at picnic shelter today!)
- JH/HS students: Parkview Student Ministries
- Men's and Women's groups: Many options—go to booths in atrium
- Young Couples: Catalyst (lunch today—room 107 @ 12:10pm)

To Discuss... w/a friend, community group, or in a family devotional time

1. Review For Further Study #2 above, and study together the resources that God has provided us with to love each other. What evidences of Jesus' love do we see in our relationships with each other?
2. Look at the passages in For Further Study #4 above, and discuss as a group how we are doing at helping each other avoid the deceitfulness of sin. What is going well in this area? How could we improve?