



# Love God!

- ♦ **Mt 22:34 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.”** **NIV**

# Love God!

♦ Love the Lord  
your God with all  
your :

♦ heart and with all  
your

♦ soul and with all  
your

♦ mind.'

Today

Next week Nov 15

Nov 22

# Love God!

- ◆ An ancient commandment
- ◆ The Shema Deut 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. **5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.** 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

# Love God with all your heart!

- ◆ Heart = seat of emotions
- ◆ The place where all emotion has its root
  - ◆ Love
  - ◆ Anger
  - ◆ Fear
  - ◆ Trust
  - ◆ Kindred closeness
- ◆ How does one love a person you can't see... such as God?

# To learn how to love with all your heart, look at people who did!

- ◆ King David

- ◆ “a man after God’s own heart.” 2 x

- ◆ 1 Sam 13:4, Acts 13:22

- ◆ David wanted a heart to heart relationship  
with God

# To love with heart... look at people who did!

- ◆ David wrote songs about his love for God
- ◆ For the director of music. To the tune of “The Death of the Son.” A psalm of David. *1 I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;*
- ◆ Ps 138:1 Of David. *I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;*
- ◆ David’s love for God carried through in the way he treated people
  - ◆ **Ps 78:72** from tending the sheep (God) brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance. **72 And David shepherded them with integrity of heart;**

# **To love with heart... look at people who did!**

- ◆ **But David was not sinless**
  - ◆ **David lied**
  - ◆ **David was responsible for murder**
  - ◆ **David used his position for sexual advantage**
  - ◆ **David was guilty of adultery**

# To love with heart... look at people who did!

- ◆ David's heart was fully devoted to God!
- ◆ 1 Kings 11:44 As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

# **God wants to have a heart to heart with you!**

- ◆ **Loving God is not a burden**
- ◆ **Loving God is not only keeping a bunch of rules**
- ◆ **Loving God is spending time with God.**
- ◆ **Loving God is talking to God like a best friend.**

# **God wants to have a heart to heart with you!**

- ♦ **When you love someone you accept them as they are; by Grace, so does God.**
- ♦ **Loving God is the marriage after the romance wears off**
- ♦ **When you love God you let him in on every emotion you are experiencing.**

# A Word About Obedience

- ♦ **John 14:23 Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24 Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching.**
- ♦ **Obedience in marriage**
- ♦ **Unwritten**

# So What?

- ◆ Now more than ever people need to see Christians who love God
- ◆ People need to see people who are deeply involved in a relationship, not just a set of moral teachings
- ◆ If people see that we are so in love with God that we will not bend on his commandments, then they will honor our choices that are countercultural.

