

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 19, 2018
“Life Principles For Living Out the Greatest Commandment:
Loving God With All Our Heart”
Mark 12:28-34

“To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.’ And, ‘he is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they do not obey God’s word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.” (1 Peter 2:7-8)

“The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 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.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these. (Mark 12:29-31)

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate one and love the other, or you will be devoted to one and despise the others. You cannot serve both God and money.” (Matthew 6:24)

“...this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” (Mark 12:33)

“These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. In vain do they worship me.” (Mark 7:6)

“All out love” =

4 PRINCIPLES FOR LOVING GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART

#1. Loving God with all our heart means _____ to Him.

“To the Lord I cry aloud and He answers me from His holy hill.” (Ps 3:4)

Prayer =

A central part of prayer is sharing our:

THINGS DAVID TALKED ABOUT TO GOD

• **Talk to God about your _____.**

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.” (Psalm 22:1-2)

• **Talk to God about your _____.**

“I am poor and weak and yet the Lord is thinking about me right now! O my God, You are my helper. You are my Saviour; come quickly, and save me. Don’t delay!” (Psalm 40:17)

• **Talk to God about His _____.**

Grasshopper Syndrome =

“The voice of the Lord spins and topples the mighty oaks. It strips the forests bare. They whirl and sway beneath the blast. But in His temple all are praising, ‘Glory, glory to the Lord.’” (Psalm 29:9)

• **Talk to God about your _____.**

“Look at how many enemies I have. See how much they hate me. Protect and save me. I trust You. Don’t let me be disgraced.” (Psalm 25:20)

• **Talk to God about your _____.**

“Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit with in me. A broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not ignore.” (Psalm 51:10)

• **Talk to God about your _____.**

“I cry aloud to the Lord. I lift up my voice to the Lord for mercy. I pour out my complaints before Him. I tell my troubles.” (Psalm 142:1)

How often do you talk to God? Do you share your thoughts and feelings with Him?

#2. Loving God with all our heart means _____ ourselves through His eyes.

“I praise you because I’m fearfully and wonderfully made.” (Psalm 139:14)

“And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.” (Ephesians 3:18-19)

God's masterpiece =

Do you see yourself for who you truly are? Do you see yourself through God's eyes?



#3. Loving God with all our heart means striving for _____ and _____ in our lives.

“I want to understand the path to integrity. When will you come to me? I will live in my own home with integrity. I will not put anything wicked in front of my eyes. I hate what unfaithful people do. I want no part of it.”
(Psalm 101:2-3)

“in my own home” =

Do you strive for integrity and purity in your life?

#4. Loving God means seeking God's _____.

“I am sick at heart. How long, O Lord, until you restore me?” (Psalm 6:3)

Seeking God's will and asking questions like this reveals our:

QUESTIONS TO ASK GOD

- **Ask God _____?** ~ When will it happen? When will I change? When will this dream become reality? When will get this bad habit under control?
- **Ask God _____?** ~ How do you want me to relate to this person who is so difficult? How should I behave in this situation?
- **Ask God _____?** ~ Why did this suffering come into my life? Why do you seem silent?

One Caveat:

**How often do you seek God's will—do you ask Him questions?
Is there something that you have wanted to ask Him, but haven't?
Are you willing to trust Him even if you don't get the answer you're looking for?**

- How are you practically living this part of the Great Commandment out in your everyday life?
- Do you love God with all your heart?
- Which one of these four principles might you need to work on?

This week I encourage you to increase your love for God by following David's example in a practical way. Pick one of these 4 principles to focus on and pray that God would give you the everything you need to follow through.

Pray; “Lord you made me to love you and I want to learn to love you more. This week I'm going to commit to talking to you everyday.”

NOTES: