

Connection Group Questions June 6, 2021

Series: Words To Live By- The Greatest Commandment

"'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

~ Matthew 22:37-40

## Opening

We are in our summer series, "Words To Live By." What are your words to live by? What verse(s) from scripture have helped you most in your life? Would you be interested in sharing your words to live by in a worship service this summer?

## **Digging Deeper**

Read Matthew 22:34-40

Perhaps there is no better way to start this series than with the "Greatest Commandment." These are truly words that all people are called to live by.

Jesus is being set up with a test? How have you responded to being tested by people that were hoping you would fail?

Jesus' answer begins with Deuteronomy 6 and the "Shema," the call to "Hear" the commands of God. How is God getting your attention to "hear" his commands?

Jesus' genius in this response is combining the love of God with the love of people, making them "like" or wedded to one another. Love is ultimately in the shape of a cross- both vertical and horizontal. How is the greatest commandment the "rubric" for the christian world view?

Since love is to define the christian life and ethic, let's DTR: Define The Relationship.

**DIRECTION:** how can the commands constantly correct the direction of our lives? How can we listen for the invitation to show love to the people in our lives?

**TIME:** Love costs time. Have you created time each day for God to use to to actually show love toward Him or to another person? If so, what examples can you share?

**RESOURCES:** Love will cost us other resources as well. Just read the story of the Good Samaritan. What resources has love cost you? What are you willing to give to the love of God and people?

## Closing

Memorize the Greatest Commandment. Start and end each day with the Greatest Commandment. Live by the Greatest Commandment.

Love God. Love people. Do something.