

THE SECOND GREATEST COMMANDMENT

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Recently, I wrote about the first and greatest commandment found in Matthew 22:37-38 "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment."

The question was, "What is the greatest commandment in the law?" Jesus gave the above answer. It's interesting to me that although Jesus was only asked about the "Greatest commandment" instead of just giving one answer, Jesus gave two. He wasn't asked, "What are the two greatest commandments?" But that didn't seem to matter to Jesus. He not only gave the first and greatest commandment, He also gave the answer for the second greatest commandment as well.

Matthew 22:39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

What Jesus said was, "Love God and love your neighbor." The two go together.

People that truly love God, love His creation. No, I'm not talking about the earth, I'm talking about people!

Most of us don't have a problem loving God, but the truth of the matter is, some people are just hard to love. Personalities sometimes get in the way. We've got to love them anyway.

Do we really love people? Are we willing to love them enough that they can feel our love? Do we give them time? Are we willing to listen? Are we willing to put our love into action? If we truly love people, they will be able to tell.

God's love is a love that loves everybody, not just those who are easy to love. God wants us to love those who can't do anything for us in return, just as much as we love those who can.

There are people all around us who need to be loved. Your spouse needs your love. Your children need your love. Your parents need your love. Your siblings need your love. Your neighbors need your love. The person you work with needs your love. Every person you know needs to feel loved.

"Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."