

KEY VERSE

Matthew 22:36-40 (ESV) - "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law? v37 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. 38 This is the great and first commandment." 39 "And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

PRIORITIES AS A DISCIPLE

The Old Order of Priorities:

_____ > _____ > _____

- The natural order of the heart is to make SELF the highest priority.

The New Order of Priorities:

_____ > _____ > _____

- Loving God above all thing leads to a proper view of self and others.

Matthew 22:37 (ESV) - 37 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.

LOVE GOD

Heart

- The heart often refers to our _____.
- The heart is also what drives our _____.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV) - "Guard your heart above all things for everything you do flows from it."

NOTES

I now love other people as a result of my love for God.

Soul

- The soul has to do with our _____ which affects our decision-making and choices.
- When our hearts fail us it is loving God with our soul that keeps us rooted.

Mind

- The mind encompasses our _____ and intellect.
- As we know God in His Word, our hearts grow deeper in love with Him.

LOVE OTHERS

John 13:34-35 (ESV) - "34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- Jesus says that as disciples we are to love one another just as He has loved us.
- The Scriptures tell us that loving God and loving others are inseparable.

1 John 4:19-21 (ESV) - "19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother."

- Jesus is our example in loving others.
- He loved others by being a servant to all.

We, as disciples of Christ, should look for opportunities to love others through serving them.

- Five ways Jesus loved through relationships:

1. He valued _____ relationships.

- As a result of investing in personal relationship with his twelve disciples, Jesus changed the world.

2. He initiated _____ relationships.

- We should follow Jesus' example in being strategic with who we give our time to.
- What kind of relationships do you need to strategically invest in?

3. He _____ people through relationships.

- Lessons from Jesus and Peter:

- Jesus spoke into Peter's _____.

Matthew 4:19 (ESV) - "Follow me, and I will make you a fisher of men."

- Jesus spoke into Peter's _____ life.

- Jesus spoke into Peter's _____ life.

- Jesus spoke _____ into Peter's failure.

Jesus never gave up on Peter.

4. He was committed to _____ relationships.

5. He understood that some relationships must be _____.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV) - "Bad company corrupts good character."

2 Corinthians 6:14 (ESV) - "Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness?"

THE MATTER OF SELF

- The Bible says to love others as yourself, but maybe you do not have a love for self or even have a hatred or despising of yourself.
- Our love and view of ourselves is now rooted in _____ and what He has called us to be!
- You are his prized possession, a son or daughter of God, redeemed, and accepted by the Father.

As disciples of Christ we are to love God above all things and love others with the love Jesus has for us.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. If you did an honest evaluation of your priorities as of today, how would you order them?
2. If God is currently number one, how is that manifesting in your daily life?
3. Do you have anyone in your life who is difficult to love? If so, how do you/can you love them well?
4. We are called to love our neighbors as ourselves. Do you struggle with self-love? (Meaning: loving yourself the way Christ loves you; because who you are is now rooted in HIM.)
5. Jesus spoke powerfully into the lives of His disciples. Of the ways Pastor Landon discussed in the video of how Jesus spoke into Peter's life, which one stuck out to you the most
6. Are there any relationships in your life right now that are toxic and need to be severed?