



theridgechurch

LIFEgroup Discussion Questions

September 8, 2013

Matthew's Gospel: What Everything Hangs On Part 2

Focus Text: Matthew 22.34-40

1. What is the context? What is Jesus doing? Why are the Pharisees plotting against Him? What is their new approach? Who asks Jesus a question? What is his intent? What does the scribe seem to be impressed by Jesus with (Mark 12.28)? Why does he ask the question he asks regarding the Mosaic Law? What does Jesus say about the Mosaic Law in Matthew 5.17?
2. What is Jesus' response to the scribe's question? How is the second like the first? How is the love of God and love of others related? How would you define the love that Jesus is calling us to have toward others?
3. What does Matthew 22.40 mean? How does the commands that Jesus give relate to the other commands throughout God's word? Give an example (Romans 13.8-10)?
4. As you read 1 John 4.7-14, 20-21; 5.1-3 and John 13.34-35, what is to mark a Christian and what is the proof that we are born again and have a relationship with God?
5. Who is the target of this love according to Jesus (Luke 10.30-37)? According to John in 1 John who we are to love? According to Matthew 5.44, who are we to love? Why is it so hard to love those who are our enemies? How should we look at the entire world and on all people?
6. Look at Proverbs 19.11. Is there an offense that someone committed against you that you are holding on to and not overlooking and forgiving and therefore cannot love them like Jesus is calling us to? What actions do you need to take? Who is going to hold you accountable to that?
7. Where is this love to manifest itself? Of course, in everything and everywhere, but especially in our families, in our serving and our work.

In our Family

Ephesians 5.25, 28, 33; 6.1-4

In Our Serving (This is really, as we are going and living out our faith)

Matthew 25.35-40 – How do we humbly serve our fellow man day to day for the glory God? This is what Jesus is looking for and those He will say, *well done good and faithful servant to.*

In Our Work

Genesis 2.15 – We were created to work (build and cultivate) and keep (protect). How can we love others in our work? What could you change about your perspective of work, so that you could truly love God and others in and through it? How do you see the people you work for, work with, or manage? Or even your customers or clients? Are they mere objects? Do you see them strictly as a way to simply add to your bank account or do you work to benefit them? How does what we do with our income speak to this idea of loving God and people through our work?

Pray.