

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: ³⁶ Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses? ³⁷ Jesus replied, you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.

Matthew 22:35 – 40

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:4 – 5

THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP IS THE RELATIONSHIP WITH OURSELVES.

- The statement “love your neighbor as yourself” is not a command to love yourself or hate yourself.

WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT YOU AND ME.

- ✓ You are a unique and beautiful treasure.
- ✓ You are forgiven.
- ✓ I'm going to hold you to a high standard.

CAN AND DOES GOD RELATE TO US?

1. Yes God can relate to you and me.
2. How does God relate to you and me?

- He relentlessly pursues us!

³ Because Your loving kindness *is* better than life, My lips shall praise You.

Psalm 63:3

- He does not give us what we deserve.

¹⁰ He does not punish us for all our sins; He does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. ¹³ The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. ¹⁴ For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust.

Psalm 103:10, 13-14

- He never meets us halfway. He meets us all the way.

3. Will it make a difference in my life or my world?

