

Week of October 25, 2020

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together,

³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

³⁶ "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

³⁷ 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 greatest and first commandment.

³⁹ And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question:

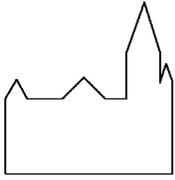
⁴² "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David."

⁴³ He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet" '?

⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?"

⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.



Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

Gathering questions:

A. What is the "greatest commandment" of your family (or your childhood family)? (In other words, what are – or were - some of the inviolable rules of your home?)

B. When have you impulsively done something unexpectedly good for someone else?

Bible Study Questions:

1. In verse 35, what do you think the lawyer (which means an expert in the religious law, not an attorney) intends by asking Jesus the question?

2. Why do you think no one was able to give Jesus an answer in verse 46? Could they not figure out the riddle?

3. What relationship do you see between the instructions to "love God" and "love your neighbor"? Is one prior to the other? Is one necessary to the other?

4. Can you think of a Biblical instruction that you once thought of legalistically, but now think of through the lens of love?

5. When Jesus says to love God with "all" your heart, soul, and mind, how do you understand the word "all"? How do you love God with all your "soul"?

6. If someone looked at your life overall, what word would they use to describe the way they see you relating to others outside of your family? Would they use 'love'?

7. Where have you felt the call to serve others? Are you feeling any "nudges" right now to serve others that you have not yet acted on?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers about ways in which each person can be more loving.