Journey Church



June 25, 2023

Shema: The Lord is One

Famous Last Words
Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Deuteronomy = <u>repeated</u> law Shema = to <u>hear</u> + <u>respond</u>

"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 NLT

Listen

- We shouldn't expect the <u>blessings</u> of God without <u>following</u> God.

 Deuteronomy 30:2-3, Jeremiah 17:9, Proverbs 14:12, Matthew 7:24-27, John 14:15, James 1:22-25
 - The Shema is a commitment to follow God's ways.

The Lord Alone

- An idol <u>controls</u> our life and <u>dominates</u> our imagination. Exodus 32, Matthew 5:3, Matthew 6:31-33, Psalm 139:23-24
- The Shema acts as a pledge of <u>allegiance</u> to our <u>one</u> true God.

Love

- Love is a <u>by-product</u> of <u>knowing</u> God. Exodus 20:5, Matthew 22:37-40, John 14:15, 1 John 4:16, 1 John 3:16, Romans 3:20-22
- The Shema is a <u>vow</u> of <u>faithfulness</u> to God.

Questions/Topics for this week:

- 1. What idols, both as a society and personally, have we set up allowed to take our focus off of the one true God?
- 2. What intentional steps can you take to bring you allegiance back to God?
- 3. How does it make you feel to know that love is a by-product of knowing God? What ways do you show the people around you love? Should your level of love drive you to know God more?

Be Intentional:

This week, reflect on if there is anything that you have given control to any idols in your life. Pray, ask forgiveness, and intentionally put God back in His rightful place of honor.

Pray:

Spend time praying together. What are some ways in which you can pray for each other? Take some time in the coming week to explore ways in which you can encourage one another. Remember to share with your group what you are learning about those opportunities and reflect on God's Word as you pray for each other.