

Study based on the sermon
From October 30, 2016, *The Law Above All Others*
from the sermon series ...



Love – The Highest of All Laws

RELATE

What new, surprising, or interesting fact did you learn from Rob's sermon?

Growing up, how did you view laws and authority figures?

What use are laws? Why do we have them? Are laws good or bad? What makes a law good or bad?

READ & REFLECT

Deuteronomy 6:5 Leviticus 19:18 Mathew 22:34-40

What news brought about the meeting of the Pharisees? What was their plan and what did they hope to achieve? What do you think was the motivation behind their action?

The Sadducees and the Pharisees were two small, yet very influential groups of Jews during the time of Jesus. Upon recognizing that Jesus had an authority, power, and popularity among the people, each group sought to one-up the other group by tripping up Jesus with their seemingly brilliant interpretations and vast knowledge of the Law. The Pharisees had set up a system of over 600 laws to aid in defining the Mosaic Laws. They themselves could not agree as to which ones were of greater or lesser importance. Knowing this, what answer were they really expecting from Jesus? Who was chosen to present the challenge? Why do you think that this particular person was chosen? By what title did he address Jesus? Why do you think he did so?

What was Jesus' response? What does it mean to love God with all of our heart? Soul? Mind? How do we love ourselves? How, then, do we love others?

How does Jesus' final statement support His declaration on what is the greatest commandment? With what argument did the Pharisees contend?

What is the best standard for truth? Why? What makes a law just or unjust?

Based on the information found by the Dan Ariely study, would it be fair to say that God's laws are best for everyone? If so, how can we, as followers of God's laws, help the world to see this? What command do we put into action?

RESPOND

Act Put the law into action. Show you love for God and others by what you do. Find a specific need and fill it.

Reflect For the whole Law can be summed up in this one command: "Love others as you love yourself." Galatians 5:14