

TO THE CROSS

“What Is This Time For?”

1. Pastor Dave contended that a question we should be asking ourselves in this moment is: What is this time for? How might this unwanted reality be offering you unexpected invitations to grow spiritually, personally, and/or as a family?

2. Australian cultural commentator and pastor, Mark Sayers, challenges people living in crisis to adapt, protect, respond, and lead. How have you, or could you, adapt, protect, respond and lead amidst these unprecedented days?

3. Read Mark 12:28-34. Of the 613 commandments of the Old Testament, which does Jesus say is the first or greatest? How does Jesus amend the ancient Jewish creed called the *Shema*?

4. What does it mean to love God?

5. In the 2x2 chart Dave drew, he highlighted the necessity of loving both God and neighbor. Are you more likely to love God at the expense of loving neighbor, or loving neighbor at the expense of loving God?

6. In the second diagram Dave drew, he suggests that if we want to love God and others as our whole being, then we need to learn to love him better with the individual parts of who we are. In other words, *to change the whole, change the individual parts*. Which of the six parts of the human person do you need to address to take next steps towards loving God and others better: 1) thoughts 2) feelings 3) heart/will 4) body 5) social aspect 6) soul. What is one step you might take towards doing this?

7. Often when we think of loving our neighbors, we almost immediately gravitate towards the most vulnerable, who often live across the world. To learn neighborly love, Dave contended that we begin by loving those in closest proximity to us. While we are largely housebound, what is one way you might grow in loving those closest to you? Perhaps as a practice this week, you ask those closest to you how you might be a more loving person in and around the home.