

Mark 12:28-34

²⁸ And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³² And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. ³³ And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴ And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Nothing New

Mark 12:28-34

Todd Chapman - September 29, 2019

Amidst the questioning attacks of the religious leaders, Jesus has a rare interaction with a scribe who asks a genuine question. Mark records this interaction in order to help us see that Jesus is the embodiment of God's eternal, loving, redemptive plan. And that those who get it, unreservedly love God and others.

The Scribe's Question - "*Which commandment is the most important...?*"

Jesus' Answer...

1. Wholeheartedly loving God is it.
2. Wholeheartedly loving God inevitably leads to loving others.

Notes:

Life Group Questions:

Mark 12:28-34

1. In your own words, what does *"you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength"* mean?
2. The scribe asks, *"What's the greatest commandment?"*, and Jesus responds with two commands. Why do you think?
3. How did, *"love the Lord with all your heart..."* get lived out in the Old Testament? How does it get lived out since Jesus' death and resurrection?
4. How is being loved by God related to loving Him, and how are those connected to loving others?
5. How has God most meaningfully helped you experience His love? His Word? Other people? Other ways?
6. Are there times you don't feel as loved by God as you know you are? How come?
7. How do you express the love you have experienced from God to others?