



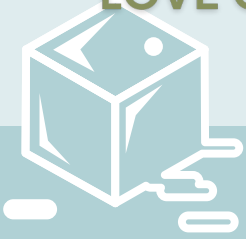
Summer

AT LIFEPOINT

WEEK OF JUNE 18, 2023

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE (MATT 22:35-38; LUKE 10:25-37)

Speaker: Pastor Beau Jensen



icebreaker

What is the weirdest gas station food you've had? How did that go?

What is Love?

- Do you ever feel like you use the word "love" out of context for what scripture says it is? Why do you think that is?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. Which attribute of love is most challenging to you?
- What does it truly mean "to bear all things" in love? How does Jesus live this out as an example?

All In on the Greatest Commandment

Deuteronomy 6:5 and Matthew 22:37 tells us, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." God wants us to be ALL IN with Him, with our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

- Heart is our emotions, passions, and desires. We are driven by all of these.
 - Soul is our inner self, eternal essence, and spiritual nature. Our self worth comes from this place.
 - Mind is our intellect, thoughts, and our processing in which we understand.
 - Strength is our physical capabilities to serve others. It includes our time, resources, and talent.
- With loving God with all of your heart, soul, and mind, is there one of these that you struggle with more than the other?

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- Hebrews 4:16 reads, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Pastor Beau said, "If we view God to be a good Father that wants good for his children whom he created, then we understand that his command comes from a position of love." How is your relationship with your earthly father? Does that relationship affect your perception of God?
- Do you see worshiping God as a commandment or an act of a love and reference for God? Why?
- What does it mean to you to be connected to God? How do you know when you're disconnected?

Living Out the 2nd Greatest Commandment

- When was the last time you had to show God's love to someone in an inconvenient time?
- When have you been convicted to love someone who is challenging or difficult to love?
- In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, the Priest and Levite had religious obligations that kept them from stopping to help the unclean man. Have you or someone that you know even been too religious and missed an opportunity to love someone who may not have a relationship with Jesus? Explain.
- Do you ever grow tired of showing God's love? How do you handle that?

act on it



ENCOURAGE

God gives us two commandments. The greatest commandment is to love Him with all of us - Our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Loving Him helps us live out the 2nd greatest commandment: Loving people. Loving God makes us see things and people in a new light. Let your love for God drive everything you do. Let inconveniences become opportunities to love others. Wherever you're at in your journey, make a pit stop and spend time getting to know or reacquainting yourself with God. We can't live out the greatest commandments of love if we're not connected to love's true source.



ASK

Does your definition of "love" align with scripture? Is there something in your life perverting the true meaning of love in your life? What would it look like for you to live out the greatest commandment? What about the second greatest commandment? Is there one you're doing better than the other? How can you start doing both?



CHALLENGE

Our values shape who we are by shaping our behavior and passions and directing the course of our lives. Take some time this week to sit down as family and make a list of your own values. Where can you fit loving God and loving people on that list? This week, dedicate three to five minutes a day to spending time with the Lord. It doesn't have to be at the same time each day, unless that works better for you. Just be intentional about connecting with the God who loves you. The next time you're inconvenienced, think of a way you can love people in that moment instead of getting frustrated.

prayer

Lord, before we could love, You chose to love us. Thank You for making it possible for us to experience, receive, and give true love. We want to be all in on the greatest commandment - We want to love You first and foremost, above anything else. Help us set aside whatever stands in the way of loving You. May our love for You overflow so we can love others as You've commanded us. Let our love for You shine in everything we do, every interaction we have, and in every inconvenience that may come our way. For those still seeking who You are to us, continue to fill them with Your Spirit. Reveal Yourself to them in ways like never before so their desire to know You continues to grow. Thank You for drawing us closer to you. Amen.