

UP: Loving God With All My Heart

Mark 12:28-34

I. The most important thing in life...

II. Developing an all-out love for God involves...

All my Heart - _____

All my Mind - _____

All my Soul - _____

All my Strength - _____

III. My heart is...

1. _____

2. _____

IV. Loving God with all my heart means...

1. _____

2. _____

V. Where we need to exercise caution...

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

VI. Making it real...

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Developing an All-out Love for God

Intro: Do you remember your first crush? How did it make you feel? How did it affect your behavior? Looking back, what words would you use to describe the love you were feeling?

Read: Mark 12:28-34

1. One of the things loving God with all our heart means is to have Him at the center of our life, as that thing of utmost importance in our life. What competes with God for top billing in your life? What can you do to keep God as your first (priority) love in your life?

2. Loving God with all our heart also means expressing our deepest feelings about God to God. How is this a reality (or not) in your life? How are you expressing your love to God and your love for God in your life right now?

3. What is the danger of reducing your love for God to pure emotion? What can this lead to?

4. How is loving God different than loving another person? What dangers lie in losing sight of God's "otherness" when it comes to loving Him?

5. To truly love God means to obey Him. Describe the challenges inherent in this aspect of loving God wholeheartedly.

Putting it into practice

6. How do you feel about expressing your thoughts and feelings to God about what is going on in your life right now, whether it's about your struggles, your weaknesses, your fears or your desires?

7. What is challenging about seeing yourself through God's eyes, i.e. knowing that you are fearfully and wonderfully made and that you are the apple of His eye? What does this communicate to you about how God values you? How does this impact how you express your love to Him?

8. What role does the church family play for you in loving God with all your heart? How can you be an encouragement to the church family in helping them love God with all of their heart?