# The Greatest Commandment

### MATTHEW 22:34-40

But the great thing to remember is that, though our feelings come and go, His love for us does not. It is not wearied by our sins, or our indifference; and therefore, it is quite relentless in its determination that we shall be cured of those sins, at whatever cost to us, at whatever cost to Him.

-C.S. Lewis

## What is God's goal for your life?

- 1. The Context and the Commands
  - Passion Week
  - Love the Lord Your God
  - With Your All
  - Greatest & First
  - The Second is Like It
  - Love Your Neighbor
  - Love Fulfills the Law (Romans 13:8)

#### 2. What Does Love Look Like?

- Starts with Faith (Isaiah 53:6)
- The Holy Spirit Helps Us Love (Rom 5:5, Gal 5:22)
- Faith Leads to Obedience (1 John 2:3-6, 3:5-10)
- Loving God & Neighbor are Inseparable (1 John 4:7-13, 4:19-21, 5:1-5)
- Jesus is Our Example (Philippians 2:1-7)

#### 2. Growing in Love

- He First Loved Us (John 16:33)
- Our Perfect Trainer
- Our Common Goal with God (James 1:2-4)
- Applying the Word to Daily Life (Heb 5:11-14)

#### 3. Putting It into Practice

- Do I Recognize God is Loving Me?
- Do I Have a Common Goal with God?
- Do I Apply Truth to My Day?

#### Into the Bible

1. Jesus showed the Pharisees' hypocrisy by quoting Moses. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-7. Twice he speaks of the heart. How is our heart the key to obedience to the commands of God? And what does love have to do with obedience?

2. If God's goal is for us to love Him with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and we accept this goal as our own, how does God go about helping us achieve our goal?

### Application

3. If we love God, we will obey His commands. Hopefully we desire to grow in our love for God and therefore our neighbor. A primary way to grow is to daily bring our trials to the Word. Pick a trial or irritation and compare how your flesh wants to respond to what the Word calls you to.

#### For your Families

4. Like gravity, we tend to obey what we believe in. Talk with your children about ways we trust God, and how that helps us to obey Him.