

What Matters Most

Mark 12:28-34

ref.ly/Mk12;niv



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Calling people into being disciples of Jesus

- A relationship
- Trusting
- Following
- ...no matter the cost

FIND & FOLLOW
A stylized graphic of a person walking, composed of black vertical bars of varying heights, creating a silhouette effect.

2

The context in the Gospel of Mark

Religious leaders opposing Jesus

- Pharisees: politics
- Sadducees: religion

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Mark 12:28-31

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

²⁹ "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.' ³⁰ 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: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

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Mark 12:32-34

³² **Well said,** teacher," the man replied. "You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. ³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

³⁴ **When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely** he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

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The Big Idea

Loving God fully
then loving people equally
sum up God's whole purpose for each person

6

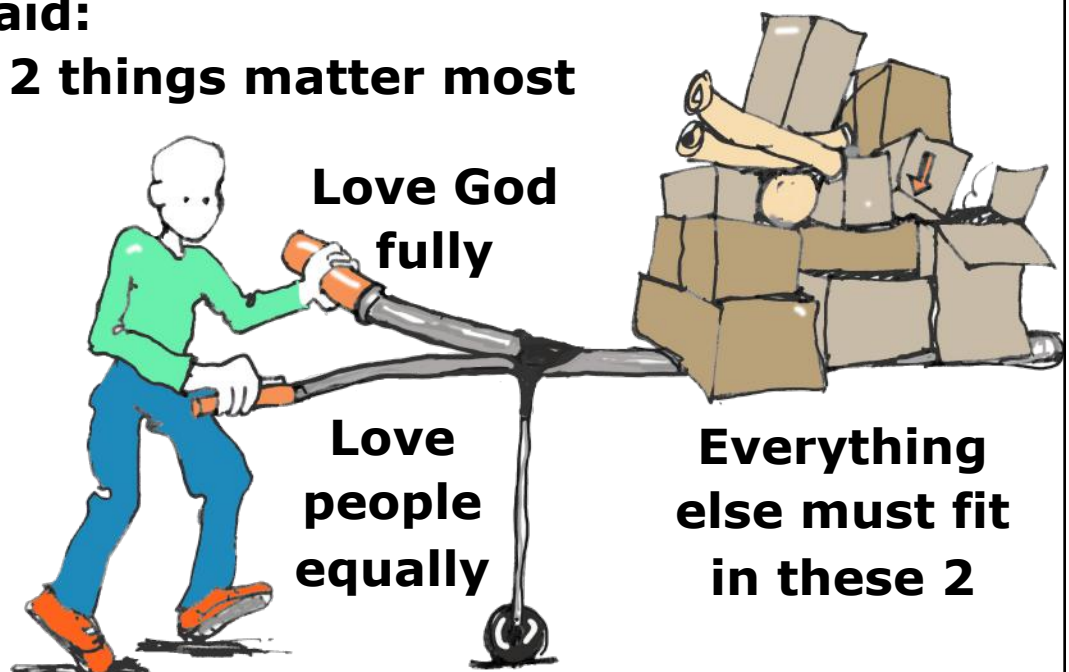
**We spend our lives
juggling many things**

**So many demands and
things of 'greatest'
importance**



7

**Jesus said:
Exactly 2 things matter most**



8

The Big Idea

Loving God fully then **loving people equally**
sum up God's whole purpose for each person

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Core Value:

Wholeness of our Humanity Given to God

We believe that the Gospel addresses the whole person, including **head** (that is, knowledge and ever deepening theology), **heart** (that is, rich fellowship with God and people), and **hands** (that is, love for God and people put into action).

- We walk in the tension of perfect justice and rich mercy
- We seek to live for the good of people beyond ourselves
- We work to build relationships and interactions beyond Sunday morning

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What are we to do?

Test everything with these 2 questions:

- 1) Is it loving God with head, heart, and hands?
- 2) Is it loving people as ourselves?

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The Big Idea

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sum up God's whole purpose for each person

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"The most important one," answered Jesus,
"is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord
our God, the Lord is one. Love the
Lord your God with all your heart
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Love your neighbor as yourself.'
There is no commandment greater
than these."

Mark 12:29-31