

What Matters Most

Mark 12:28-34

Gospel of Mark:

Calling people into being disciples of Jesus

A relationship

Trusting

Following ...no matter the cost

The context in the Gospel of Mark

Religious leaders opposing Jesus

- Pharisees: politics
- Sadducees: religion

Mark 12:28-34

28-31: The man's question and Jesus' answer

32-34: The man and Jesus respond

The Big Idea

Loving God fully

then loving people equally

sum up God's whole purpose for each person

Juggling

We spend our lives juggling many things

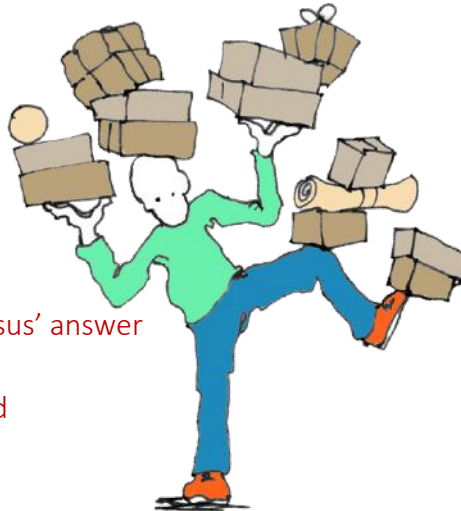
So many demands and things of 'greatest' importance

Jesus said: Exactly 2 things matter most

Love God fully

Love people equally

Everything else must fit in these 2



Core Value: Wholeness of 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

What are we to do?

Test everything with these 2 questions:

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

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. What are the big demands on your life and time and resources?
2. What does it look like when those demands are lived out without loving God fully and loving people equally?
3. What does it look like, and what could it look like, when what we do is lived out as an expression of loving God fully and loving people equally?
4. Jesus perfectly loved the Father fully, and loved us equally. What helps you to see His perfect love and to worship Him truly? How might good practices of Lent help you do this?

Conversation starters this week

What is your purpose in life?

What gives you hope and strength to keep pursuing it?