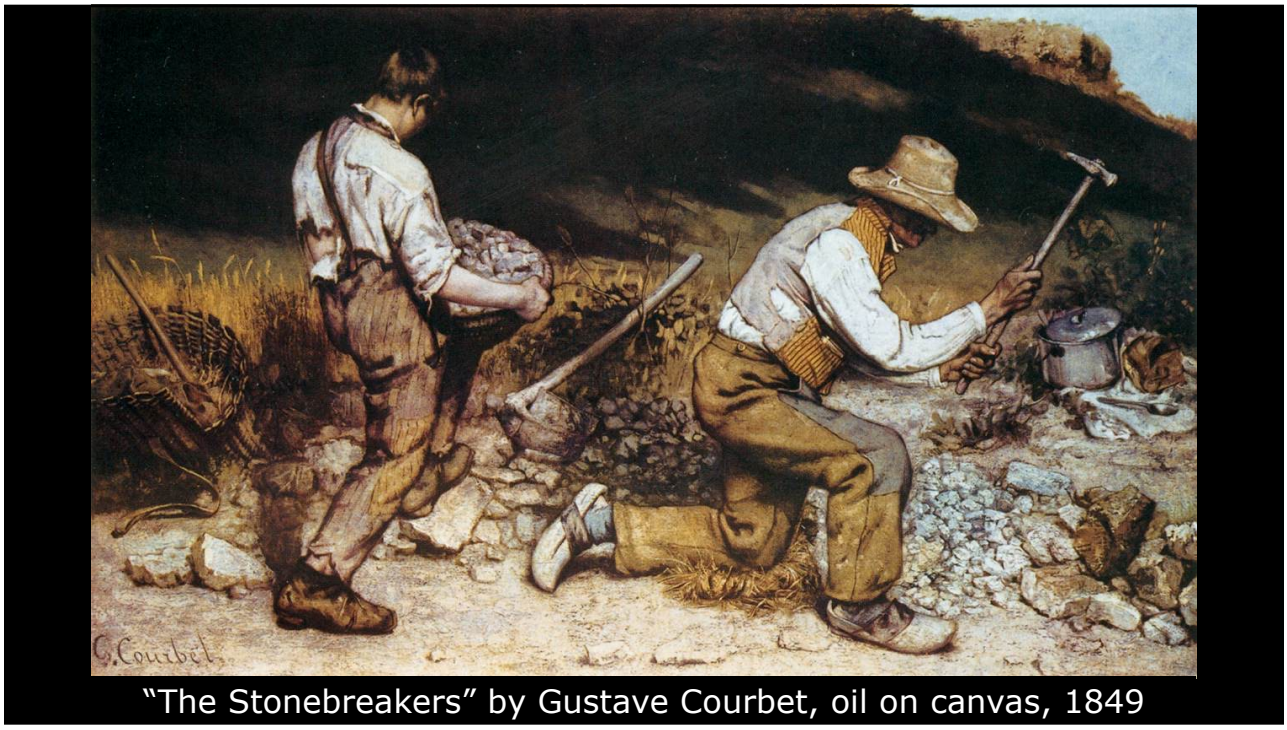


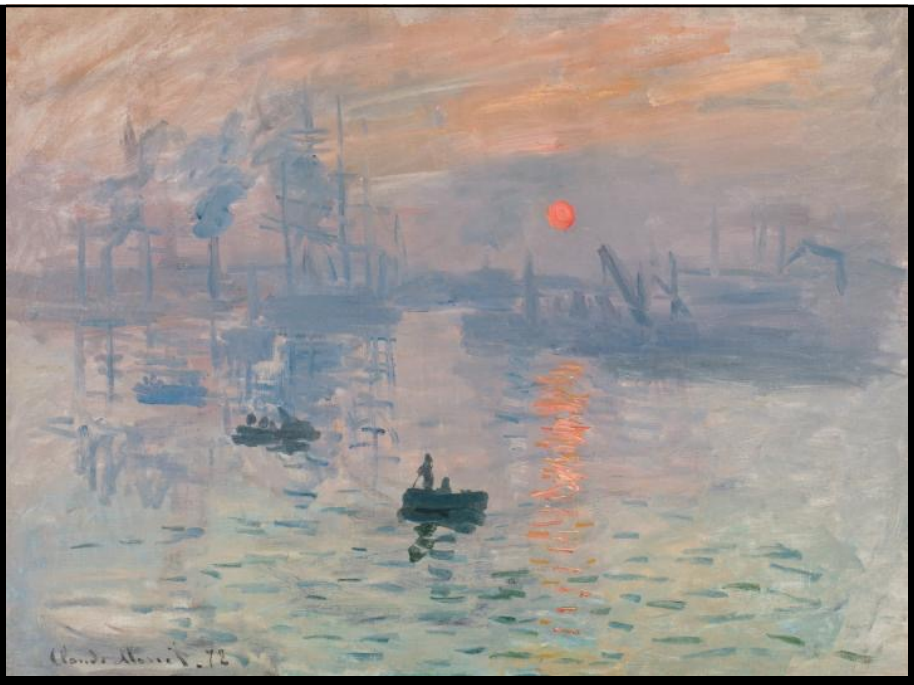
"The Stonebreakers" by Gustave Courbet, oil on canvas, 1849

1



"The Gleaners" by Jean-Francois Millet, oil on canvas, 1857

2



"Impression, Sunrise" by Claude Monet, oil on canvas, 1872

3



"The Starry Night" by Vincent van Gogh, oil on canvas, 1889

4

Jesus said…
"No one after drinking old wine wants the new,
for they say, 'The old is better.'"
Luke 5:39

5

For the love of God

A mature disciple
loves with God's love

Luke 10:25-42 ref.ly/Lk10;niv

6

Luke

Research project for Theophilus

To show the powerful reliability
of Jesus' life & teaching

"Travel narrative" from Luke 9:51-19:27

- From Galilee to Jerusalem where Jesus would die
- Through Samaria, the despised "half breeds"
- On His way to His death, Jesus was making disciples …of us too

7

Luke 10:25-42

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up
to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to
inherit eternal life?"

26 "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do
you read it?"

27 He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your
heart and with all your soul and with all your strength
and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as
yourself.'"

28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do
this and you will live."

8

29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

"'Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in their guilt. "'Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord." Leviticus 19:17-18

I abhor the assembly of evildoers
and refuse to sit with the wicked. Psalm 26:5

I hate those who cling to worthless idols;
as for me, I trust in the Lord. Psalm 31:6

9

30 In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him.

10

35 The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

11

36 “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

37 The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

12

38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he
came to a village where a woman named Martha
opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called
Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he
said. 40 But Martha was distracted by all the
preparations that had to be made. She came to him
and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has
left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"
41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are
worried and upset about many things, 42 but few
things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has
chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away
from her."

13

The Big Idea

God's standard is…

to love God and people fully
with heart, attention, and generous service

14

Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

1 John 2:7-8

15

Ancient words …heard afresh

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Deuteronomy 6:5

"Love your neighbor as yourself." Leviticus 19:18

- Not self-righteous
- Not self-justifying
- Not selfish
- Not comparing
- Not 'loving those who love us'
- Genuine love…even sacrifice, even for enemies

16

The Big Idea

God's standard is…

to love God and people fully
with heart, attention, and generous service

17

What should we do?

Give & serve for the love & good of people

- Love people by giving and serving
  - See with compassion
    - Where I am rejected
    - Those with bad theology, politics, attitudes, …
  - Love with the love we have received from God
  - With great wisdom & with real giving

18

What should we do?

Give & serve for the love & good of people

Give & serve for the love of God

- Do what we do for the love of God
  - Love with head & heart: Sit at Jesus' feet
  - Love with hands: Serve with freedom and joy
  - No matter what others do or don't do

19

What should we do?

Give & serve for the love & good of people

Give & serve for the love of God

20

"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:6-8

21