

Loving God, Loving Each Other

There is hate in this world like we've never seen.

Nation against nation.

Families against each other

Politicians on both sides of the aisle

Even some folks in churches can't get along.

That goes against what God has said and what He expects of His people. As believers, we should love God and love each other.

Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is *the* first and great commandment. ³⁹ And *the* second *is* like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

In the simplest form... Love God....Love Each Other

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart

And do not lean on your own understanding.

Trust Him when He says to love Him and others. When that happens, He blesses.

Love is more than just an emotion. It's a lifestyle.

Some days you don't feel like it, but the fact is, you love the Lord. More importantly.... He loves you!

Deuteronomy 6:4-15 “Hear, Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! ⁵ **And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.** ⁶ These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. ⁷ And you shall repeat them diligently to your sons and speak of them when you sit in your house, when you walk on the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. ⁸ You shall also tie them as a ^[b]sign to your ^[c]hand, and they shall be as ^[d]frontlets ^[e]on your forehead. ⁹ You shall also write them on the ^[f]doorposts of your house and on your gates.

¹⁰ “Then it shall come about when the LORD your God brings you into the land that He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give you, great and splendid cities which you did not build, ¹¹ and houses full of all good things which you did not fill, and carved cisterns which you did not carve out, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant, and you eat and are satisfied, ¹² be ^[g]careful that you do not forget the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of ^[h]slavery. ¹³ **You shall ^[i]fear *only* the LORD your God; and you shall ^[j]worship Him and swear by His name.** ¹⁴ You shall not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who surround you, ¹⁵ for the LORD your God *who is* in the midst of you is a jealous God; *so follow Him*, or else the anger of the LORD your God will be kindled against you, and He will ^[k]wipe you off the face of the earth.

Love God... Sometimes it means being still.

Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I *am* God;

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!

Loving God... Worship... Admire, adore, love, serve, awe struck

Our love for God should **SHOW** in our lives.

When you really love Him, you can't keep it inside.

You serve. You sacrifice. You surrender.

In our worship, in our quiet times, in our service

Loving Each Other... fellowship, evangelism

John 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

James 2:8 If you really fulfill *the* royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you do well;

Psalm 133:1 Behold, how and good and pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity.

Loving each other...

Getting along, no gossip, no backbiting, following God.. not your emotions.

****You don't always have to have things your way!**

Realizing that others have opinions and ideas. They may be different than yours.

Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

We need each other... to rejoice with, to laugh with, to do life
We need each other... to cry with, to mourn with

The world needs to see our love.

Yes, we should take a stand against sin

- We've been silent too long

However, we must love the sinner. He/she may not be like us.
They may have different ideas of life.

Yet, they are someone whom Jesus died for because He loves them. We too should love.

It's real simple.... The Christian life can be boiled down to two phrases...

- **Love God**
- **Love each other**

Please know God loves you and this church loves you.

This Pastor and staff love you.

Have you received God's love?

Are you loving God back? Serve, sacrifice, surrender

Have you shown love to someone else?

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Main text: Matthew 22:37-39