

Sermon Discussion Guide: Loving (Matthew 22:34-40)

Watch sermon here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aO4KuvqQiFo>

Understanding the Word

1. What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind?
2. Why do you think Jesus emphasized love as the greatest commandment?
3. How did Jesus critique the Pharisees' approach to religious rules?

Personal Reflection & Application

1. Have you ever found yourself falling into religious legalism rather than focusing on love?
2. How has your understanding of discipleship changed after this sermon?
3. In what ways can you demonstrate love to those around you this week?
4. Are there areas where your knowledge of Scripture has not yet translated into love for others? How can you bridge that gap?

Community & Action

1. How can we as a church ensure that love, not just knowledge, is central to our discipleship?
2. Think of someone Jesus loved in the Gospels. Can you identify a similar person in today's world? How can you show love to them?
3. How can we be more intentional in loving those outside of our usual circles?

Practical Next Steps

- **Love God:** Identify one specific way you can deepen your love for God this week (e.g., prayer, worship, scripture meditation).
- **Love Your Neighbor:** Find one tangible way to show love to someone in your community.
- **Live Like Jesus:** Reflect on Jesus' love in His ministry and ask God to guide you in loving others as He did.

Closing Questions

- What is one practical step you can take this week to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind?
- What is one way you can love your neighbor more intentionally this week?

Help with January 26 sermon

(send your thoughts to the questions below directly to Dan - dcarlton@culpeperbaptist.org and/or discuss as a group before we gather for worship)

Praying – Philippians 4:4-7

How can we shift our responses to life from worry to prayer?

How can practicing gratitude deepen our relationship with God?

How can we disciple someone to develop a habit of praying with gratitude rather than just presenting requests?

What are some ways to disciple someone who struggles with constant worry or stress?