

**Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**1000 Oaks Bible Church**

**Cultivating Healthy Relationships:**  
**The Big 2 Commandments**

## \* INTRODUCTION

A. Who has ever said, “But I thought you said...” That happens when a person has said something but it was not accurately heard. Communication is not an “exact” process. We think, but...

B.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK\\_ZfY&t=37s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK_ZfY&t=37s)  
(0:05 - 0:44)

**C. Matthew 22:36-40 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”**

**37 And He said to him, ““You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’**

**38 This is the great and foremost commandment.**

**39 The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’**

**40 Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.”**

D. The setting - it is Wednesday of the Passion week, two days before His arrest and crucifixion. The day before Jesus would emphatically cleanse the temple. Now, stinging from that rebuke, the Pharisees want to put Jesus to the test.

1. Matthew 22:15 - question about paying tax
2. Matthew 22:23 - question about the resurrection.
3. Matthew 22:36 - question of the greatest commandment.

# **I. LOVE THE LORD**

**\* “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”**

**A. So in a final attempt to trick Jesus, a “lawyer” asks Jesus the question, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”**

**\* A wrong answer would discredit Jesus in the eyes of the people.**

B. They should have known better than to ask Jesus a Bible question. He had just told them in Matthew 22:29...


C. Jesus answers the question by quoting directly from the Bible - Deuteronomy 6:5. Orthodox Jews wear a tiny box with Deuteronomy 6:4-5 inside: called the **Shema**. Had to stop 2x a day and read.









A promotional photograph for Kendrick Lamar's album 'Black Hippy'. The image features five members of the Black Hippy crew. In the back row, from left to right: Black Thought (wearing a black short-sleeved button-down shirt and a black cap), Kendrick Lamar (wearing a black long-sleeved shirt), and another member (wearing a black long-sleeved shirt). In the front row, from left to right: another member (wearing a black short-sleeved shirt and a black cap), Kendrick Lamar (wearing a black long-sleeved shirt), and another member (wearing a black hoodie and a black cap). The text 'STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON' is overlaid in the center in a white, distressed, blocky font.

# STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

D. When Jesus says the word “**Love**” Not - not the love that you just *feel* but the love of dedication, the love of commitment, the love that says this is right no matter what I feel. And that’s the word, agapaō.

E. HEART - The word “heart” basically in the Hebrew understanding is the core of a person’s identity.

Proverbs 4:23 / Proverbs 23:7

F. SOUL - The word “soul” usually refers to a person’s emotions and will. Matthew 26:38 Jesus said, “**My soul is exceeding sorrowful...**”

G. MIND - can be “might”, “Might” is a very broad word but it seems as though might has to do with intention and will.

H. Heart, Soul, Mind. Every point of our being is to be affected by our love for God. The three terms - express overlapping ideas addressing our total being. Each one Is preceded by ALL to express full extent.

I. Confession; for 19 years...





J. The summary point is - God is not just looking for people who, on the outside, can go through the motions. Being Shallow down deep is not good enough. God wants your whole being to love Him.



## II. LOVE OTHERS

\* “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

A. *Monasticism*, the movement of withdrawing from the world and cloistering in isolation as an act of devotion to God.







B. How do you love yourself? Well, Do you eat for yourself? Do you clothe yourself? Do you provide for your needs and safety? Do you do things which make you happy? Love others the same way.

C. This is not merely an acknowledgment type of love. It is expressed by intentional action. I John 3:18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

**D. John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.  
35 By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”**

**E. Colossians 3:12-14 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.**

**13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the LORD forgave you.**

**14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.**



## \* CURBSIDE

A. Augustine, the great theologian of the early church, observed that “Everything written in Scripture is meant to teach us how to love either God or our neighbor.”

B. Everything I can teach about cultivating healthy relationships is grounded in these 2 commands by Jesus. **Everything**. This is the Foundation. This is Ground Zero. This is the original DNA.

**C. Ephesians 5:2 (MSG) Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with Him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of Himself to us. Love like that.**



**Love God,  
Love Others**