

Run the Race: Love God

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – September 23, 2012

Mark 12:28-30

28 One of the teachers of the law [asked Jesus], "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" 29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'"

1 John 4:16, 19

16 God is love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

John 21

"Do you love me? Feed my sheep."

10 COMMANDMENTS (Deut 5)

LOVE GOD (1st four):

1. You shall have no other gods before me.

"I won't compete with other false gods."

2. You shall not make for yourself an idol.

"I won't compete with other things."

3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

"I won't have you disrespecting me."

4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

"I won't compete for your time."

1. YOU CAN'T LOVE SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW

29 "The most important [commandment]," answered Jesus, "is this:..."

30 Love the Lord your God..."

2. GOD WANTS YOUR AFFECTIONS

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart..."

- To fix our affections completely on Him.
- To love God supremely. More than any other human being or earthly thing.
- To be willing to give up all that we hold dear at His command.

3. GOD WANTS YOUR LIFE

"Love the Lord your God ... with all your soul..."

- To lay down our life for Him.
- To devote all our life to His service.

Gal 2:18

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

4. GOD WANTS YOUR THOUGHTS

"Love the Lord your God ... with all your mind..."

- To submit your thoughts and intellect to his will.
- To love his Word more than we do the decisions of our own minds.

5. GOD WANTS YOUR ACTIONS

"Love the Lord your God ... with all your strength."

- To live your life in a way that glorifies Him.