

Series: Genuine Love

Message Title: Love God

Speaker: Pastor DJ

Date: 9/14/25

Big Idea: **We love God only because He first loved us**

Matthew 22:34-40

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, **tested him** with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

1 John 4:19 “We love because he first loved us.”

Study Questions-

#1. According to the Matthew 22 verses what did Jesus say are the two greatest commandments? Do you think you can obey one of them and not the other? Why or why not?

#2. The expert was trying to test Jesus with his question. Do you think in our conversations with Jesus (prayer life) that our motives/intentions matter? Why or why not?

Do you think the expert was satisfied with Jesus’ answer?

#3. Do you think loving God with all of our heart, soul, and mind is something we can do with our own strength? Why or why not?

#4. In reference to the other Scripture mentioned about, 1 John 4:19, it really says it all. How does this truth cause you to adjust or change your answer to the previous question?

#5. Read the verse below. In the original language (Greek) “poured out” actually means a **continual flooding**. Knowing this, how can you reply more on the Holy Spirit to empower you love God, right now, in your life and current circumstances?

“And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.” – **Romans 5:5**