

**Matthew 22:35-40 (NIV)**

<sup>35</sup> One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

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

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

**Leviticus 19:18 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> “ ‘Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

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**WHY INCLUDE LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR?**

❖ \_\_\_\_\_ *that you \_\_\_\_\_ it and \_\_\_\_\_ it.*  
(1 John 4:19-21)

❖ \_\_\_\_\_ *your focus from “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” to “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”.* (vs. 39)

- Two ways to interpret “love your neighbor as yourself” :
  - “Love your neighbor \_\_\_\_\_ yourself.”
  - “Love your neighbor \_\_\_\_\_ yourself.”  
(Leviticus 19:34)

❖ \_\_\_\_\_ *God’s* \_\_\_\_\_ *as the truly Good Neighbor.*

- Genesis 2:15,18
- Exodus 19:9
- Exodus 40:34
- John 1:14
- 1 Corinthians 3:16



Source: The Neighboring Church (Rick Musaw and Brian Mavis, 2016)

**To Meditate/Reflect Upon:**

- Am I lying, or living it out, when I say “I love God”?
- How does God’s pattern of pursuing me in relationship change the way I see myself? The way I see others?