**Sermon Notes**

**“The Heaviest Commandment”**

Mark 12:28–34

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “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.’ 31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” 32 “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. 33 To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” 34 When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

***What does it mean to “love the Lord your God”?***

Love is a *volitional commitment to God that is*

1. *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
2. *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
3. *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

***Reflections on the Heaviest Commandment***

***1) Love has a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***2) Love has a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

Discipleship = process of learning to love God HSMS and share that love with others.

*S.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*H.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*A.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*P.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*E.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*“How do I follow Christ?”*

*a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* is the normative call!

*b) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*is the journey of discovery for each of us—no molds!

***3) Love has a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***Questions for Discussion***

***1.*** What insight from the message left the biggest impression on you? Why?

2. What emotional reactions did the message cause? Explain.

3. As you listened, what relationships, life experiences, or circumstances came to mind? Why?

4. Jesus went beyond the Silver Rule (don’t do to others what you don’t want them to do to you) and even the Golden Rule (do to others what you would want them to do to you) to the Platinum Rule (love people like Jesus). This “love upgrade” could be world-changing, here and now. Now here’s the question: Comparing what you know about how Jesus loved people with the opportunities that lie around you, what are some examples of what it could mean to love people like Jesus?

5. What personal application of the message has the Lord shown you? How do you feel about following through with it? What obstacles do you face in your implementation of it?