



# Horizontal Jesus

Wk2 SG One Another Sermon Series

**WARM UP:** Do you think the average person can tell a difference between someone who is a follower of Christ and someone who isn't? If so, how?

**Background:** Most people think of the Bible as a huge rulebook filled with “do’s and don’ts”; mostly with the “don’ts”. When most people consider the commandments that God expects people to live their life by, they tend to focus on the “don’ts”. Maybe that’s why it seems impossible for them to keep them as God intended. But, did you realize that the majority of the commandments found in the Bible do not focus on the “thou shall not’s” of scripture? They focus on “thou shall”.

**Read About It: Matthew 22:34-40**

**Background:** Since Jesus silenced the questions of the Herodians and the Sadducees; the Pharisees decide to put Jesus to the test one more time. Their question was aimed specifically to trip Jesus up on a doctrinal issue and they believed that they had the perfect question to trip Jesus up. “The Law” is the entire Old Testament.

1. What was the Pharisee’s motive for asking Jesus this question?
2. Jesus answers their question by quoting Deut. 6:5. Why do you think Jesus emphasized loving God with our heart, soul, and mind? Note: Mark adds strength to the list.
3. What would it look like to love God this way look like?
4. Why does Jesus add “Love your neighbor as yourself” as the second most important command? What was the connection?
5. How is loving God related to loving people? What does loving someone like Jesus look like?

**From the Message:**

- This morning Pastor Steve said, “Most of the problems we face in church are relational at the core.” Would you agree or disagree?
- This morning Pastor Steve said, “Love is the launch pad for all the other one another commands.” What happens if we get this one wrong?
- How did you feel when Pastor Steve closed the message by saying, “People may not be able to define love, but they know it when they see it. When the world asks, “What is God like?” we should be able to say, “Look at the McConnell.”
- **What struck you the most from this morning’s message? Why that?**
- **What challenged you the most? What changes do you plan on making as a result?**

**Reflection and Prayer:** Let’s admit it. Loving people the way God wants us to isn’t easy. Actually it’s impossible on our own. The only hope we have of becoming a more loving person is to let Christ love through us. Letting Christ live in and through us is the essence of the Christian life. So, what will loving your neighbor as yourself look like this week?

Christ in us, the hope of glory. Col. 1:27