

Sacred Space My Lord and my Neighbour

The Gospel of Matthew Series (and John)

PREPARATION

And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:5

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against a fellow Israelite, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord. Leviticus 19:18

CONFESSION

Who may worship in your sanctuary, Lord? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill?

Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts. Those who refuse to gossip or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends. Psalms 15:1-3

ADORATION and GRATITUDE

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.

1 John 4:9-11

Meditation & Contemplation—Matthew 22

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”

³⁷ Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

⁴¹ Then, surrounded by the Pharisees, Jesus asked them a question: ⁴² “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	How do I relate to this?
Respond	What is my next step of obedience?
Rest	Receive God’s healing and renewal.

They replied, “He is the son of David.”

⁴³ Jesus responded, “Then why does David, speaking under the inspiration of the Spirit, call the Messiah ‘my Lord’? For David said,

⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord, Sit in the place of honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.’

⁴⁵ Since David called the Messiah ‘my Lord,’ how can the Messiah be his son?”

⁴⁶ No one could answer him. And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

ANCHORING PRAYER *“Lord, I give you all that I am, and all that I have.”*

REVIEW OF THE HEART

- *What do I think of Jesus? In what ways am I (or am not) giving my all out of love for God?*
- *What do I think (honestly) that Jesus thinks of me?*

WISDOM

- Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life. Deuteronomy 30:19-20a
- Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God’s law. For the commandments say, “You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet.” These—and other such commandments—are summed up in this one commandment: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Romans 13:7-9

TESTIMONY *What is God saying to me?*

INTERCESSION *Prayers for the Church, others, and me.*

CLOSING PRAYER

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding and my entire will—all I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.

Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me. Amen.

Ignatius of Loyola

SACRED SPACE EVERY DAY

Be still and quiet before God.

Be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Pray for the Sacred Space community.

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