

SERMON SERIES

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 Share a time when a rule got in the way of doing what actually mattered.

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- 2 If rules exist to protect something of value, what is the rule of love protecting?**

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- 3 What are ways you've seen "rule-keeping" replace true love for God or others—either in your own life or in the church?**

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- 4 How can we discern the difference between an action that is loving and an action that is simply obedient to a rule?**

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- 5 In Deuteronomy 6, God tells His people to talk about His commands “when you sit, walk, lie down, and get up.” What would this kind of daily God-centeredness look like in your life today?

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- 6 Have you ever experienced your actions leading your heart? Share an example where doing the right thing first helped your heart follow later.

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- 7 Who is a “neighbour” in your life right now that may be difficult for you to love? Without naming names, what makes it difficult?

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- 8 Which of the three practices from the sermon (“Slow down,” “Practice listening,” “Pray for your neighbour”) do you feel prompted to grow in? Why?

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- 9 Jesus raises the bar by saying, “Love one another as I have loved you.” How would you describe the difference between loving others as you love yourself and loving them as Christ has loved you?

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John 13:33-35

Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ 34A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Matthew 22:33-40

The Great Commandment

34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. 35 And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.