

Love God and Love our Neighbors



The challenge to love God and our neighbors is known in the Bible as the Great Commandment. Jesus spoke these words in the Book of Matthew in the New Testament, but their roots are in the Old Testament.

It is so easy to say these words, but so hard to put them into practice. We might think that loving God should be easy. Why wouldn't we love our creator? Then things happen in life, and we wonder if God has abandoned us. We wonder where this God is.

It's harder still to love our neighbors. They may live near us or be in adjacent towns, states, or even countries. It's hard to love someone we don't know or agree with. It takes self-discipline and commitment to God's laws to love our neighbors.

To live the Great Commandment, we must shed our self-centeredness and recognize that we don't have all the answers to life's problems. We can't control every situation in which we find ourselves.

There are many ways we can show our love of God and our neighbors. Here are just a few examples:

1. Follow the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
2. Listen for God's voice and follow his direction.
3. Call or visit neighbors to show that we care about them.
4. Do something nice, unexpected for neighbors.
5. Remind others and ourselves that God is good to us and for us.

The Great Commandment is simple in its statement, but difficult in its implementation. Nevertheless, we must ask ourselves, "What kind of world do we want to live in?" If we want a peaceful, constructive world, the solution is to listen to God spoken through the words of Jesus. "Love God and love your neighbor!"

You are invited to attend Blawenburg Church in person or remotely on Zoom or Facebook any Sunday at 10am.

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