



November 9th, 2025

Sermon: The Greats | Love The Lord

Main text: Matthew 22:34-38

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does this story tell me about God?

2. What does this story tell me about people (or about myself)?

3. If this is God's word for my life, how will I obey it?

4. Who am I, going to tell?

Other, Key quotes; points and questions to reflect on and discuss from Craig's message:

Key Points:

God's Love Comes First

- Our love for God is a *response* to His initiating love (1 John 4:19).
- God revealed His name ("I AM") to Moses and invited Israel into covenant — He is *our* God, not just *a* God.

Covenant Relationship: Identity, Obedience, Presence

- Identity: We are God's beloved children through Jesus (cf. Exodus & baptism).
- Obedience: Our obedience flows from love, not obligation.
- Presence: God is with us — in the cloud, the tabernacle, in Christ, and now by the Spirit.

The Great Commandment: Love God with All You Are

- Heart: Your affections, desires, longings.
- Soul: Your will, allegiance, surrender.
- Mind: Your thoughts, attention, and focus.

Loving God Is Active and Comprehensive

- Loving God is not compartmentalized — it involves *all* of who we are.
- Worship, surrender, and focus are daily practices of love.

Key Quotes:

"We love God because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19)

"Before we talk about us loving God, we need to try and grasp the greatness of His love for us."

"Our obedience doesn't earn us anything; it reflects our heart's desire to live in relationship with God."

"Jesus, how are you inviting me to respond to your love for me?"

Key Questions from the message:

What are some desires or affections that compete with your love for God?

- (Psalm 27:8 – “Seek His face...”)

Where is God inviting you to surrender or shift your allegiance more fully to Him?

- (Joshua 24:15 – “As for me and my house...”)

What’s consuming your thoughts or focus lately? How could you redirect your mind toward God?

- (Colossians 3:2 – “Set your minds on things above...”)

How has your understanding of God's covenant love shaped your identity and how you live?

What specific way can you love God more fully this week — in heart, soul, or mind?