

**SERMON SERIES**

*“WE’RE ON A MISSION FOR GOD”*

**“Love God, Part 1”**

**Matthew 22:34-40**

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

**I. Whole-heartedly love God who is whole-hearted.**

*“which is the great commandment...?”*

*“You shall love the Lord your God...”*

*“The LORD our God, the LORD is one”*

Genesis. 2 *“one flesh”* → Ephesians 5 *“Christ and the church”*

**Deuteronomy** *“... with all your heart ... soul ... might”*

**Matthew** *“all your heart ... soul ... mind”*

**Genesis 2:24**

**Exodus 20:2-3**

**Joshua 23:11**

**Ephesians 5:31-32**

*“The message of the covenant is one of God’s totally free grace to his people. Of course, it calls for a response of total commitment! ... God’s covenant love is not the result of our commitment; it is the cause of it.”* -Sinclair Ferguson

*“The three nouns together indicate the essential nature of man, his ultimate, fundamental loyalty, not just a superficial allegiance.”* -R.T. France

**II. Whole-hearted love reveres, serves & warmly worships the Lord.**

**Deuteronomy 10:** *“fear... walk ...love... serve with all you heart ... soul”*

*“fear ... serve Him and hold fast to Him”*

**Psalms 97:** *“who love the LORD ... rejoice in the LORD ... give thanks to His holy name”*

**John 4:**

**Deuteronomy 10:12-13, 20**

**Psalms 97:10-12**

**John 4:25**

*"God demands our complete allegiance, obedience and passion. So, everything we do should be done for His glory."*  
-John Frame

### **III. Our whole-hearted love is reflexive to God's self-sacrificing love to us.**

**Jeremiah 2:** *Adam & Eve → all of humanity*

**Deuteronomy 30:** *promises to circumcise hearts so we may love Him!!*

**1 John 4:** *God's sacrificial love precedes ours!*

**Revelation 2:** *"Remember ... repent"*

**Deuteronomy 30:6**

**Jeremiah 2:13**

**1 John 4:10**

**Revelation 2:4-5**

*"Nothing but the gospel will soften up this hard place; no one but the Spirit can regenerate the human heart."*  
-D.A. Carson

### **Digging Deeper:**

1. What competes with God for your heart & love?
2. What part of the description of love for God comes easiest to you? Hardest?
3. What do you like most about worship? Struggle most with?
4. Why is it so important to keep thinking about God's love for you?
5. How can we as a community grow in love for God?