

SERMON SERIES
“WE’RE ON A MISSION FROM GOD”

“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR! PART 1”

Matthew 22:34 – 40

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. Our mission from God is to love our neighbor. (*Matthew 22:39; Leviticus 19:18*)

“And a second is like it”

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself”

Commitment: To pursue meaningful relationships with one another.

Romans 12:9-10

Phiippians. 2:4

“Let love run through your streets in a pure, full stream. Love as you would be loved.” -Andrew Bonar

“If I’m all about me, I expect you to be all about me too. If you are all about you, you’ll expect me to be all about you too. Such relationships just ... won’t ... work. I need to be about you, and you need to be about me. That is love.”
-Steve Cavallaro (2015)

“Selfishness is a principle that contracts the heart, and confines it to self, while love enlarges it, and extends it to others.” -Jonathan Edwards

II. Loving your neighbor means not sinning against them. (*Matthew 22:40; Leviticus 19:11-16*)

“One these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets”

Leviticus 19:11-16

Romans 13

Galatians 5

Commitment: Pursue the well-being of your neighbor: believing and unbelieving.

Commitment: Repent of pride and its community-destroying sins.

Romans 13:8-10

Galatians 5:13-15, 25-26

"In one way or another all the commandments are expressions of God's love. Love is the thrust of them all, and it is only as we love that we fulfill them."

-Leon Morris

"A heart aloof from God grows aloof from others. It engages in merciless comparisons and endless faultfinding."

-Ray Ortlund

III. Loving your neighbor means restoring sinning neighbors.

(Leviticus 19:17-18)

"You shall not hate your brother in your heart"

"You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge"

"you shall reason frankly" → "open rebuke" → "restore him in a spirit of gentleness"

Commitment: To address sin to restore & protect the community.

Proverbs 27:5

Galatians 2:11-14; 6:1

James 5:19-20

"We should not cease to love our neighbor because he has injured us. We may pity, but not hate him for it."

-Jonathan Edwards

"To serve one another through love, that is, to instruct him who goes astray, ... to bear with his infirmities ... to be patient at home with a froward wife and an unruly family; these are works which reason judges to be of no importance."

-Martin Luther

Mission & Commitment

Love God!

1. Commitment to reverent and joyful worship.
2. Commitment to renounce sinful thoughts, words, and deeds by God's grace.
3. Commitment to cultivate goodly thoughts, words, and deeds by God's grace.