

## Sermon Discussion Questions: March 15, 2026

### *The Greatest Commandment*

Sermon Series: Learning the Way of Jesus

Passage: Mark 12:28-34

1. In his sermon introduction, Mark referenced AJ Jacobs' project described in his book "The Year of Living Biblically": trying to keep all the commandments of the Old and New Testaments for an entire year. How do you think you would fare on this project? What do you think you would learn about yourself?
2. What are some ways you wrestle with the same question the scribe in this passage asks—which at the core is "how should we live?" Are there ways that you find yourself looking elsewhere (other than God) for answers? Are there ways you are not open to God telling you how to live, or ways that you're stuck in an "echo chamber" when it comes to determining right and wrong? What would it look like for you to humble yourself and open-mindedly come to Jesus for instruction?
3. What's your reaction to Jesus' answer to the scribe's question—that loving God with your whole self and loving your neighbor as yourself are the most important commandments?
4. In what ways do you find yourself loving God and/or your neighbor half-heartedly? What would repentance look like for you?
5. In what ways do you find yourself preferring rule-keeping to love because it's easier? What would repentance look like for you?
6. What are some specific ways that Jesus has loved and continues to love you that are especially impactful? What helps you receive and rest in his whole-hearted love for you?
7. Share some responses to Mark's application questions:
  - Which literal neighbor in your neighborhood could you move towards this week, month, year, with intentionality, strength, and emotion?
  - Which literal neighbor of yours in this worship service could you move towards right after this worship service? Introduce yourself, ask good questions, postpone whatever plans you have, follow up next week, invite them over for lunch.
  - Is there someone who's challenging to love that you're avoiding or relating to based on law rather than grace—because they're not measuring up to your standards? Could you move towards that person, maybe even ask forgiveness?