



# The 2nd Great Commandment

“Thou Shalt Love Thy Neighbor As Thyself”

# Learning Connection

God teaches us in the bible how we should love. However, we know that NOT all people believe in the bible or choose to obey his laws. If everyone in this world obeyed the 2nd great commandment, that is, to love thy neighbor as thyself....there would be no hate or violence in this world. Nor would we have sodomy because a romantic relationship between two individuals of the same-gender is NOT considered love in the eyes of God. He considers it an abomination, a sin. We must learn to love not according to the desires of our flesh but according to the laws of God.

# Matthew 22: 36-40

“Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

# Romans 13: 8-10

“Owe no man anything, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.”

# Galatians 5:14

“For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even this;  
Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”

# Love as an Action

- ◆ When referring to love in the royal law...it is describing an action as opposed to love as an emotion
- ◆ Our emotions are bound to the flesh, and in the flesh are the motions of sin.



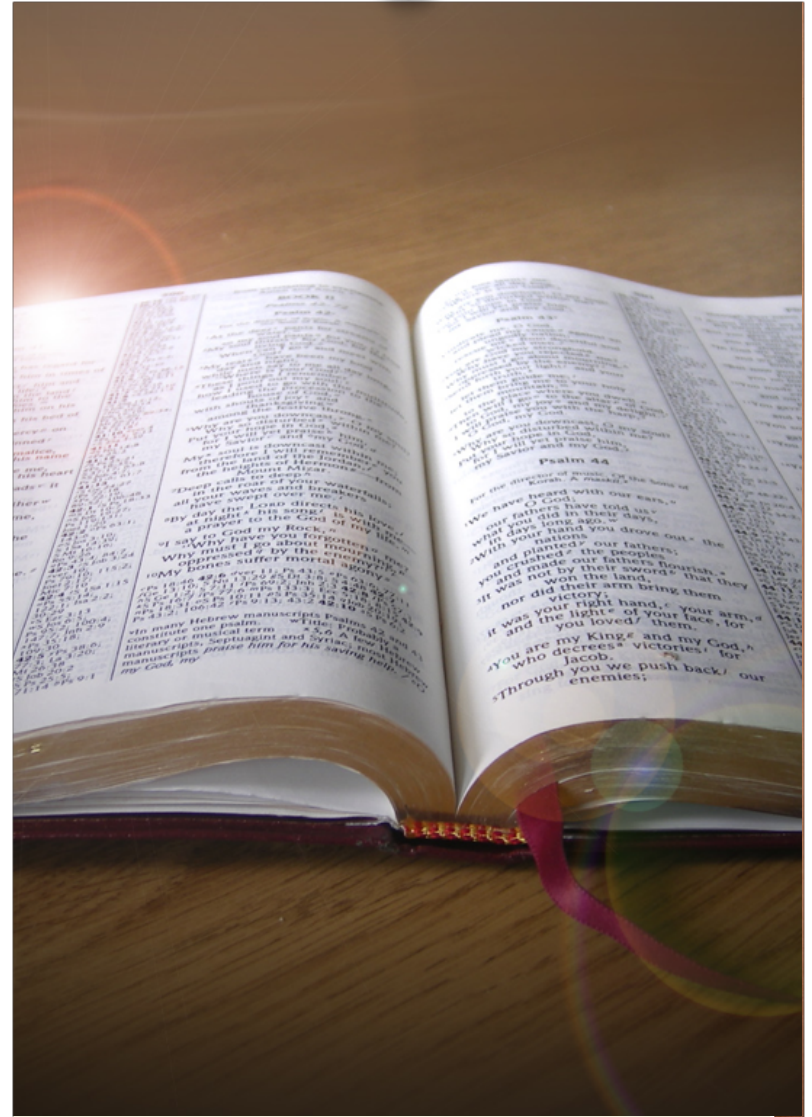
# Emotions Are Not a Sin

- ◆ Our emotions are not sin, but the sin that is in the flesh takes advantage of our emotions to cause us to sin against God.
- ◆ We therefore have to love according to the spirit of God, and not through the weak emotions that often cannot distinguish between love and lust, or love and loyalty.



# Emotions are Not Sin

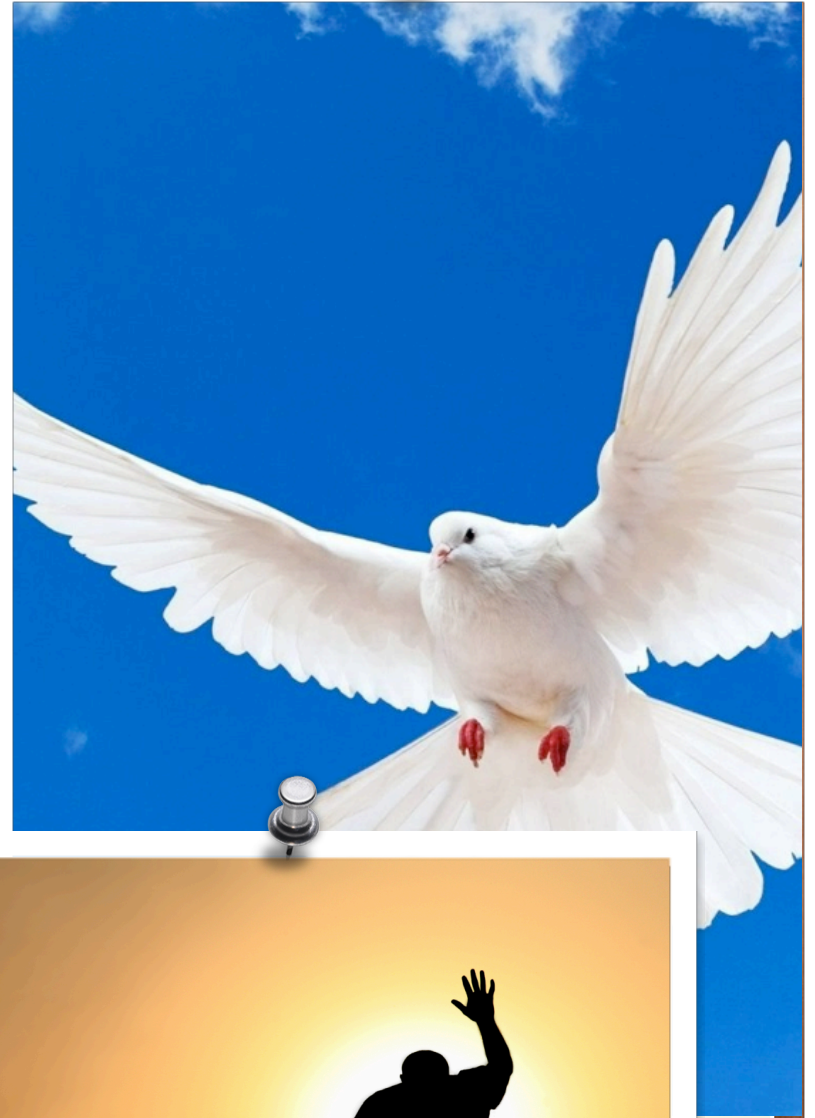
Many times people love the things, through their emotions that are wicked, dangerous and sinful. God has a better way.





# Charity

The word charity means love in Greek, but it does not define what that perfect love is, the love that is measured and purged through the Spirit of God and obedience to the word of God.



# Love According to God

- ◆ The word of God teaches us what true love is, and how to love God and to love our brother.
- ◆ The word of God teaches us to distinguish between love and lust and even kinship.
- ◆ In **Romans 13:10** when it says that love is the fulfilling of the law, it does not mean that if you feel some affection toward your brother then God considers that you have kept the law (which is what many people believe).
- ◆ It means that if you fulfill the law, as Paul described in verses 8-9 then that means that you love your brother.

# Brotherly Love

- ◆ Brotherly love is the love that you show to everyone that is not God.
- ◆ This includes the love of family members such as your spouse, your children, your parents, and your brothers and sisters.
- ◆ It also means your neighbors, friends and coworkers.
- ◆ It includes strangers and even enemies. And it includes you too. In other words, your brother is every one.



# Brotherly Love

## #1

- ◆ Since brotherly love must be shown to people who are enemies as well as friends, strangers as well as close relatives
- ◆ Christ has taught us how to apply this law in every occasion.

## #2

- ◆ Christ taught us that we must forgive our brother when he trespasses against us, if we want him to forgive us when we do wrong
- ◆ He taught us that if we have trespassed against our brother then we must go to our brother to make amends

# Brotherly Love

- ◆ He said that we may get angry, but to not let the sun go down on our wrath.
- ◆ He warned us against anger, pride, hate, covetousness and envy.
- ◆ He said that we must love even our enemies, and that we should not salute (speak to) only the people that we like, but we must salute our enemies also.
- ◆ He said that we must do unto others as we would have them do unto us.

# Brotherly Love

- ◆ Parents are to instruct their children in righteousness and to discipline them as needed, but to bring them before God.
- ◆ Children even as adults must honor their parents.
- ◆ Spouses must love each other as much as they love themselves showing affection and respect for one another.
- ◆ There are so many things that the word has taught us.



# I John 4:20-21

“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from Him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.”

# Brotherly Love

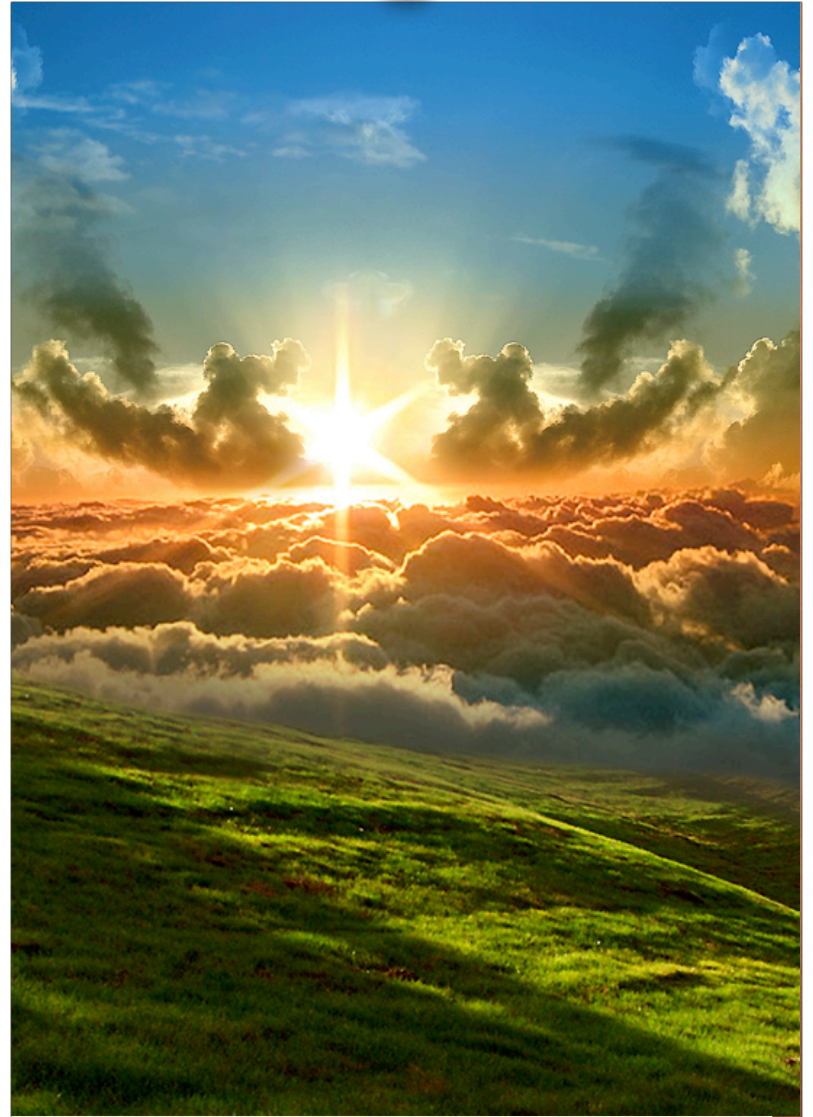
- ◆ We must do to our brothers as we would have him do to us
- ◆ We must love him, forgive him, have compassion for him when he is in need, but we must not love him more than we love ourselves.
- ◆ How we love ourselves is a measuring rod for brotherly love.





# Divine Love

There is only one person that we must love more than ourselves and that is God. Divine love is our highest calling. If we love ourselves more than God then we will not sacrifice for him because sacrifices can be painful.



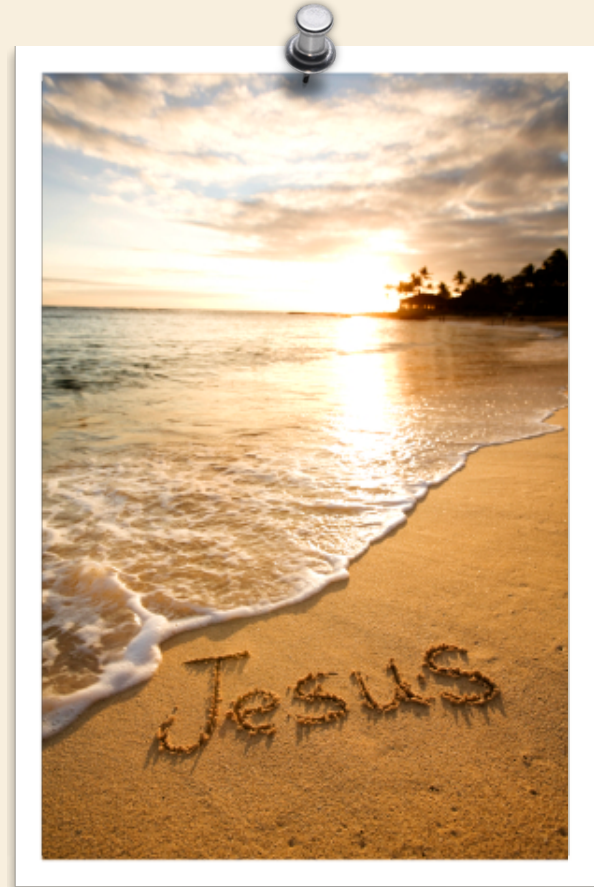
# Making Sacrifices for Loved Ones

- ◆ Often times as parents and spouses we make certain sacrifices for our families.
- ◆ This does not mean that we love them more than ourselves.
- ◆ What we must do with our spouses and our dependent children is to consider the needs and the weaknesses of every person, because they are all a part of you, you love them as yourself.



# God Considers Us

Just as God considers the needs and weaknesses of all of his children because we are part of him, and he is patient with us and gives us the things that we need to live, and has given us his mercy and love and patience. Christ is our greatest example of love because he laid down his life for us, and before he died he taught us through his word and left it for all generations. And Christ also considered us as his brother.



# Brotherly Love

- ◆ We are made in the image of God. We ought to bare that in mind when we think of our brother.
- ◆ You will never get into the kingdom of heaven hating someone, never forgiving, holding grudges.
- ◆ The very person that you are so angry at may be a child of God, and remember that the things that we do to our brothers, Christ considers that we are doing those things to him, whether it is good or whether it is evil.

# Our Enemies

- ◆ Concerning our enemies or even our brothers that may lead us astray, showing brotherly love to them does not mean we must associate or keep company with them.
- ◆ We must avoid any thing or any one that may lead us to sin or that may harm us.
- ◆ We treat them as we would want to be treated, we speak to them, and we pray for them but we keep them at arm's length. Everyone is not a friend. **I Corinthians 5:9-11.**



# Special Thanks

The content of this presentation was developed by  
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# Questions

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