

**June 16, 2023**

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

**Mt. 22:37-39** *Jesus replied: “Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”*

The complete love of the LORD is our example of how we are to love. In essence, all of the commandments of God come down to these two commands: **Love God** and **love people**. When the LORD gave these commandments to Moses, He gave them because of His great love for us. **Love God** - You shall have no other gods before Me; You shall not make any graven images to bow down and worship; You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain; Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. **Love People** - Honor your father and your mother; You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife.

When the Pharisees questioned Jesus about which commandment was the greatest, He replied that loving the LORD with all your heart, soul and mind and loving your neighbor as yourself were all of the commands put together. Truly, if we love the LORD completely, we will follow Him and if we love people as our neighbor, we will reach them. Love God, love people. The common denominator? LOVE. When we love God with everything within us and love people like He does, then we have begun to truly show the love of God.

**Dear LORD, help us to love like You love; to give You our complete devotion. And help us to love people like You love people. We can’t do this on our own. We need the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to love like You do. In Jesus Name, Amen.**