

HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS

STUDY GUIDE

Mark 12:28-31, Romans 12:1, Revelation 2:4-5,

Observation questions

1. In Mark 12:28-31, what are the four specific areas of our being that Jesus says must be engaged in loving God?
2. According to the description of the human heart, what are some of its functions beyond just pumping blood?
3. In Revelation 2:2-3, what are the specific positive actions and qualities that the church was commended for before the complaint was issued?

Interpretation questions

1. Jesus moves from a singular "commandment" to a plural "these" when discussing love for God and neighbor. How does this suggest that these two loves are an integrated "both/and" rather than separate duties?
2. Love is described as an initiation rather than a reciprocation. How does this perspective change the way a person views their responsibility to love someone who is only offering "parts of themselves" or "bad energy" in return?
3. The heart is said to have its own "neural network" that stores memories and emotions. How might past wounds, abandonment, or "generational wounds" hinder a person's ability to give themselves away fully in love?
4. In Revelation 2, the church is warned that they can continue doing "hard work" and "patient endurance" while still losing their "first love." What does this suggest about the relationship between religious busyness and the actual state of the heart?

CAN YOU HANDLE THE WEIGHT?

STUDY GUIDE

Application questions

1. It is impossible to fully love others until we realize we are fully loved by God ourselves. Do you ever find yourself trying to "perform" to earn love rather than living out of the security that you are already God's first choice? [13:15] [24:27]
2. The only reasonable response to receiving God's mercy is to reflect it back to Him. Looking at your daily rhythm, what are some "small faithful practices" you can start this week to reorder your life around the One who gives life? [17:46] [20:07]
3. We often allow our worth to be shaped by how often we are rejected or "pump faked" by people. When you feel like a "backup plan" in your career or social circles, how can you practically remind yourself that God is not "settling" for you, but actively pursuing you? [23:11] [24:27]
4. Loving God involves four dimensions: relationally, spiritually, mentally, and physically. Which of these areas feels the most "fragmented" or "defensive" for you right now, and what is one step you can take to invite God's healing into that space? [25:10]
5. Success in love is measured by the "tangible sound" it makes in the ears of others—being patient, kind, and not demanding its own way. If the people you live or work with were asked what your love "sounds" like lately, what would they say? [33:26]
6. We follow Jesus for ourselves, but not by ourselves. Who are the people in your life that help you "reaffirm your yes" to Jesus every day, and how can you be more intentional about joining a community that makes love a practiced way of life? [37:42] [42:42]