



“Best Summer Ever – The Greatness of Love”

August 10 – 11, 2019

Jeremiah Ramer, CPC Minister

INTRODUCTION

Sometimes we overthink the things we care most about. We overcomplicate things because we want to believe that important things have to be complicated. We even overcomplicate faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Read Mark 12:28.** Who did Jeremiah tell us were the two groups of Teachers of the Law? Why did they want Jesus to define which commandment was the most important?
2. **Read Mark 12:29-31.** What answer did Jesus give them?
3. The big idea was simple: We need to love God and love others. Why do you think that is so simple, yet so difficult?
4. What are some of the ways we complicate this simple idea?
5. **Read Mark 12:32-33.** What does it mean to you to love Him with all of your heart, and with all of your soul (some versions say “understanding”)? And with all of your strength?
6. **Mark 12:33** also says “to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices. What does that mean in today’s culture?
7. Jeremiah gave us 3 ways to love Him.
 - **SEEK HIM** – Read Matthew 6:33 and Jeremiah 29:11-13- It sounds simple, but what does it mean to seek Him?
 - **PRIORITIZE HIM** - Read Matthew 6:33. When are we to seek him? He wants to be **FIRST** in our lives.
 - **ABIDE IN HIM** – Read John 15:4-5. Discuss the meaning of these verses. Look at verse 5 again. What will you “bear” when you abide?
8. When we seek Him, and prioritize Him and abide in Him, we receive the greatest gifts in return. **Read Galatians 5:22-23** and list the gifts.
9. What 3 ways did Jeremiah tell us to **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF**. Hint **F O R**.

CHALLENGE

Read through the Gospel of Mark each week throughout this series. (YES—that means the challenge is to read through the gospel multiple times this summer!

COMMIT TO MEMORY - *To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.* **Mark 12:33**

PRAYER - Share prayer requests and pray for one another.