

Heart, Soul, Mind, Strength: Mark 12:28-30 – One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?” “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’”

That about sums it up!

So there’s a guy who tries to play “Stump Jesus”. Out of all of the commandments that God has given His people (to these guys, their Bible is called “The Book of the Law”, and it contains the first 5 books of what we know as the Bible) this guy wants Jesus to tell him which one is singularly more important than all the rest. Not backing down from this intellectual challenge, Jesus gift wraps His answer and ties a nice little bow on it for us.

Jesus says straight up, love God with everything that makes you who you are. Love Him fully with your heart and love Him completely with your soul. With every ounce of brain power you can come up with, love God with your mind. Finally, love the One True God, the God Most High, the Mighty One, love God with all your strength, with your energy, with your physical ability. With all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy, love God!

Obvious next question that you might have: “How do I love God?” To start, love God by spending time with Him in prayer and by reading His Word (the Bible). Develop your relationship with God through these two actions. Love God in your obedience to Him. When you read the Bible, and you read about Jesus and His teachings, follow his teachings. Obey God. These are good places to start, but I cannot lead you down the entire path. You must take the lead yourself. Start by praying to God, reading your Bible, and being obedient.

**** I encourage you to use these passages from God’s Word as a resource in your daily life. Don’t let this truth just rest on this tag or on this shirt. Use it! Let it become a part of you, let the scripture be written on your heart and move you to live your life in obedience to God out of love. Dive into God’s Word, spend time with Him in prayer, connect with other believers, live for Jesus who died for your sins and rose again! ****

FYI – We have a Bible Study on Facebook.com and invite you to join. New scripture is posted daily. If you don’t have a Facebook Account, then you will need to create one to join the Bible Study. So, if you’re interested, sign into your Facebook Account and search “Facebook Bible Study - yes you can join!”

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