



## Sermon Notes

Walk In the Way of Love

March 14, 2021

Twila Senter

### **Ephesians 5:1-2**

*1 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

**What is the example that God the Father has set for us through His Son Jesus?**

### **John 3:16**

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

### **Ephesians 5:2**

*and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

**Love is sacrificial**

**Love is unconditional**

### **Romans 5:8**

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

### **1 John 3:1**

*See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*

**Love is sacrificial. It is the giving up of oneself for someone else.**

### **John 15:12-13**

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.*

**Jesus' sacrifice of love was God-ward and us-ward.**

### **Ephesians 5:2**

*2 and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

### **Luke 9:23-24**

*23 Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it."*



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#### **Luke 10:25-28**

*On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 26"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" 27He answered, "'Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" 28"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."*

The Shema is the centerpiece of the daily morning and evening prayer services and is considered by some the most essential prayer in all of Judaism. An affirmation of God's singularity and kingship, its daily recitation is regarded by traditionally observant Jews as a biblical commandment. (myjewishlearning.com)

#### **Deuteronomy 6:4-5**

*4Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.*

#### **Jeremiah 29:12**

*Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*

#### **Jeremiah 33:3**

*'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'*

The psalmists often used the word shema as they cried out to God, asking him to hear their cry and to respond.

#### **Psalms 34:6**

*This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.*

Exodus 19:5-6 is an example of God calling his people to obedience.

#### **Exodus 19:5-6**

*5Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, 6you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."*

When we hear God and respond to him in love, we will inherit eternal life. The expert in the law knew the right answer, but was he putting it into practice?

#### **John 10:7-10**

*7Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. 9I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*



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### **John 10:25-30**

*25 Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, 26 but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. 27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one."*

**We will obey what we believe to be true. Therefore, disobedience comes from disbelief.**

Prayer isn't about getting God to agree with us, and then for him to act according to our will. Prayer is about us agreeing with God so that we can act according to his will!

### **Galatians 6:7-8**

*7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*

