Mark Lesson 42 (2023)

**THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT**

(Mark 12:28-34)

**Open it:**

1. What responsibilities do you feel toward your neighbors?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verse 28. What did the teacher of the law come over to speak to Jesus? What significant question did the teacher of the law present to Jesus? How is he different from previous questioners? (12:13, 18)
2. Read verses 29-31. How did Jesus respond to the man’s question? What does the phrase *“the Lord our God, the Lord is one”* tell us about God? (Ge 1:1; Jn. 14:6)
3. What did Jesus say the most important commandment is? (30) What does it mean to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength?
4. What did Jesus say was the second most important commandment? (31) What do you think it means to love your neighbors as yourself?
5. Read verses 32-33. How did the man speak with Jesus to show he understood God’s heart? What does God value more highly than sacrifices and offerings? Why is wholehearted love for the Lord more important than outward actions that Christians practice today?
6. Read verse 34. What did Jesus mean when he said to the teacher, *‘You are not far from the kingdom of God”*? How did the surrounding crowd react to this conversation?

**Apply it:**

1. Who is one neighbor to whom you can practically show your love this week?