

## *What We Believe — The Teaching of Love*

What makes love so important? Without it, we would just be another religion with its rules and rituals. With it, we have a relationship, and example, and a motive for serving God. Today, we are going to look at:

- How love is the basis of our faith
- How love establishes a relationship with God
- How & why God commands us to love

## *Taking it Further ...*

How important is love? Let's look to the Bible to find out!

Question: Look up Matthew 22:35-40. [About a scribe testing Jesus, trying to get Him to argue about which commandment was more important than another.](#)

What is the greatest commandment? [Love the Lord your God](#)

What is next? [Love your neighbor as yourself](#)

Question: King Josiah was a good king. He had the Israelites stop worshiping idols and lead them to start worshiping God. Read 2 Kings 23:25.

Why did Josiah do these things? [He turned to the Lord with all his heart and strength \(love\)](#)

What does it say about the importance of love? [Josiah served the Lord out of love](#)

Question: Look up Revelation 2:4-5.

What was the Ephesian church not doing? [They had left their 1st love—love for God](#)

How important was this? Very, God was about to remove their candlestick—the Spirit which showed [they were one of the Lord's churches. \(Rev. 1:20\)](#)

Question: Look up John 13:34-35. How important is it to love each other? [It is like the 10 commandments were to the Israelites. In fact, love sums up the commandments.](#)

How powerful is it to love each other? [It shows that we are disciples of Christ](#)

## *Locking It In ...*

**"By this all men will know that you are my disciples,  
if you love one another."**

**John 13:35**