

STUDENT'S GUIDE

Discussion Questions: The Greatest Commandment Bible Study

The greatest commandment described in two of the Synoptic Gospels: Matthew 22:34-40 and Mark 12:28-34 cover the "Greatest Commandment" Jesus teaches the disciples.

1. **The Sadducees are silenced.** (Read the verse outlined in purple: Matthew 22:34-35, and Mark 12:28a) **Mark identifies the man as a scribe, Matthew identifies the man as a lawyer. Is there any difference between the two? If so, what?**

2. **"Which is the greatest commandment?"** (Read the verse outlined in red: Matthew 22:36, and Mark 12:28b). **In what book(s) are the 613 commandments in the Bible?** _____

3. **What are the Ten Commandments?** (Read Exodus 20:1-17)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

4. **What is significant about the first commandment?** _____

5. **The second commandment has three elements, one in each of the three verses. What are they?**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

6. **The third commandment. What does it mean to take the Lord your God in vain? We are not expecting to you state it, but you may be "descriptive."**

7. **The fourth commandment. How are we supposed to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy? And when is it?** _____

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8. The fifth commandment. How do we honor our father and mother?

9. The sixth commandment. What is the difference between "kill" and "murder?"

10. The seventh commandment. How is Jesus's interpretation of adultery differ from God's?

11. The eighth commandment. Other than taking of someone's possessions, what are other forms for stealing?

12. The ninth commandment. What damage is there of bearing false witness against your neighbor?

13. The tenth commandment. Why is this commandment different than all others?

14. **Jesus states the Greatest Commandment:** (Read the verse outlined in blue: Matthew 22:37-38 and Mark 12:29-30) **What are the four key elements in loving the Lord your God?**

15. **Which element was omitted by Matthew?**

16. **Where is this found in the Old Testament?**

17. **The Jewish prayer.** Found in Deuteronomy 6:5-6, Matthew 22:37-39 and Mark 12:29-31. **What did the Jewish people call Deuteronomy 6:5-6?**

18. **Why would the Jewish people pray this prayer?**

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19. What does it mean to love the Lord your God with all your heart?

20. What does it mean to love the Lord your God with all your soul?

21. What does it mean to love the Lord your God with all your mind?

22. What does it mean to love the Lord your God with all your strength?

23. How do we demonstrate this love to God (Man's love for God)?

24. **Love your neighbor as yourself (Man's love for each other).** (Read the verse outlined in green: Matthew 22:39, Mark 12:31a). **How do we demonstrate our love for our neighbor?**

25. **These two commandments are the greatest commandments** (Read the verse outlined in black: Matthew 22:40, and Mark 12:31b).

26. **The Lawyer's response.** (Read the verse outlined in orange: Mark 12:32-34) **Why did Jesus say to the scribe, "You are not far from the kingdom of God?"**

27. **Prior to the Good Samaritan Parable** (Read the verse outlined in grey: Luke 10:25-28). Prior to the Good Samaritan Parable, **what teaching was Jesus trying to convey to the lawyer?**
