

## LEARNING HOW TO LOVE GOD

*Mark 12: <sup>29</sup> And Jesus answered him, The first (first in time, order, first in importance) of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: <sup>30</sup> And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.*

We are commanded to love God, it is not an option.

Why does God command us to love Him? Because love requires a response, it is a spiritual law, love commands a response.

Love is all about intimacy. Until we know the Lord intimately, the enemy will try and use this commandment against us because our human love will fall short.

We love God because He first loved us. We don't love him with a human love that falls short, but we love Him with His own divine love that flows into our spirit when it becomes alive to Him.

What God commands us to do, He empowers us to do. Without Him we can do nothing, but through Him we can obey the first commandment.

What happens when we love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength? Ecstasy (a feeling of intense delight) we experience heaven on earth.

Love commands a response. When we love someone with all our heart and they do not respond, it causes us pain. But when we love God

with all our heart, He responds. All God wants from us is our love. He wants to be embraced. What God wants is a relationship.

Our spirit has the ability to embrace Him. But this is something that we have to learn how to do.

The first love gate in our spirit is a two way gate way. Heaven has access to us and we have access to heaven.

Learning how to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength will open up to us heavenly encounters. It will enable us to live in two realms, heaven and earth.

What God wants is to be real to us. Because He lives inside us, we can embrace His presence inside us. And embracing His presence inside of us opens up the door for the most exciting thing possible; it is called rapture, ascending into the heavenly realms. When we encounter the kingdom of God that is within us, that kingdom will transition us into the kingdom of heaven that is on the outside of us.

It is experiencing the kingdom of God inside of us that positions us to begin to be able to see in the spirit. Revelation 4:1 after this I looked and behold a door was opened in heaven.

The love of God flows out of heaven into our spirit, but then it must penetrate into our soul and this is where we encounter the blockages. This is why we have to learn how to love God with our soul and mind.

Because God is Spirit, how do we love an unseen Spirit? We first must encounter Him in our spirit. If we died tonight our spirit (if it has been born again) would come out of our body and then our spirit would

see everything that's going on in the spirit realm because it is spirit. But if our spirit would then come back into our body, then we can't see anything. Why? Because we still have a natural mind that has to be renewed so that we can be transformed. We cannot approach this with a natural mind but from a spirit dimension that is inside of us.

The first thing we need is a revelation of the omnipresence of God. God is omnipresent. The very universe cannot contain the Lord; His whole being fills every part of the universe. He is present everywhere at the same time. He fills the whole universe. He never comes and goes, He is always there. He is not defused throughout the universe but He is present at every point in His fullness.

There is no place on earth we go where He is not there. In His fullness He is there. God does not come and go, we come and go. We get distracted by the cares of this life or desires for other things. He said He would never leave us even to the end of this age. He doesn't leave, we leave. We say God where are you, He is right there. He never goes, He never leaves, He saying where are you?

He never moves away from us, He is omnipresent – which means He is always present with us.

When this becomes a revelation to our spirit it will become real to us. Only what we know to be truth and believe is real to us. Sometimes we feel His presence, sometimes we don't. But nothing has changed with God; it has just changed with us. He hasn't moved we have moved. We have moved in our thinking, in our awareness, in our thoughts we have moved away somehow. But then we come back and set our mind and heart upon the Lord. So once we believe that God is always present with us, then we must learn how to access Him.

Heaven has to be released from inside of us, filling the atmosphere and then this will open up the door for heavenly encounters.

It is very important for us to understand that the God of the universe lives inside of us. This means the very essence of the person of God lives in our spirit.

The first place for us to encounter God needs to be in our spirit. It is inside of us, not on the outside of us.

God lives inside of us and we can touch him on the inside of ourselves.

So we must make a choice to embrace the presence of God that is inside of us. Then our soul and body need to be actively involved in everything that our spirit is doing.

We have to love God with our soul, and our mind, and all our strength, with intensity.

First we have to become aware of the intensity of the love of God in our spirit; we have to get all our spirit gates open and flowing. Then we begin taking a look at our soul and body gates, because these are the areas where the love of God must heal and restore so that there is nothing in us which hinders the love of God from flowing through our whole being. The love of God has to penetrate into our soul and body so that everything responds to His love.

