



WE LOVE OUR COMMUNITY

When Jesus was asked what the greatest command is, His answer was:

Matthew 22: 37-40 NKJV

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Jesus emphasized the importance of loving your neighbor by saying that it is second only to loving God with all one's heart, soul, and mind. This commandment is found in Leviticus 19:18, where it is presented alongside other ethical instructions, such as not stealing or lying.

The command "love your neighbor as yourself" is often interpreted as a call to treat others with the same level of care and compassion that one has for oneself. This means not only avoiding harm to others, but actively seeking their well-being and flourishing.

This idea is echoed in the Apostle Paul's assertion that "love is the fulfilling of the law," suggesting that if one truly loves others, one will naturally follow all of the ethical commands in the Bible. As Christians, we are called to a life of service and love for others. We must actively seek to reach out to those around us.

Today we will study about the Lighthouse value called "we love our community". We are going to dive into learning about some "communities" around us that we love and serve and talk about how we can love them well!

Discussion questions:

- **Can you also recall a time when someone loved on their neighbor and God used it to transform that person's day or life? (Bible story, story you heard about, personal experiences, etc.)**
- **What are some ways we can love our community as a church?**
- **What are some ways you can love and serve those around you on a personal level?**
- **Take some time to share how you could put these ideas into action as a group or as an individual.**

