

LESSON 2 // FINDING YOUR FIRST LOVE

Big Idea: Relationship with God is more about love than laws. The Lord longs for us to love Him in response to His love for us.

LOVEL

Love for God is an "all-in" love that truly changes our lives. This love is expressed in practical ways through obedience, worship, thinking about the Lord, talking about Him and seeking to imitate Him in all we do.

Mark 12:28-30 (*NIV*) One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

Start Talking:

Talk about how you came to know the Lord and His love for you. How did this change your life at that time?

Start Thinking:

Read Mark 12:28-30 and 1 John 4:19. How do these verses speak to you about God's call to respond to His love?

Read Psalm 31:23. Why is it important that we prioritize "relationship" more than "rituals" as we seek to know and honor the Lord?

Read Romans 5:8 and 2 Corinthians 7:6. What are some of the ways God reveals His love to you? How should this impact your walk with Him?

What does it mean to be "all in" with your love for God? How can you live this out in practical ways?

Start Praying and Doing:

Pray that your attitudes, emotions, thoughts and actions—your heart, mind, soul and strength—will express God's love more and more.

Seek to grow in these expressions in your everyday routine at home, at work, in all your interactions with others and in every aspect of your life.