

**Sermon Title: *“The Priority of Love”***

**Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:1-25**

Pastor Chris Fritz

Sunday, May 12, 2019

**INTRODUCTION**

***Mark 10:29-30 - “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for My sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.”***

***Mark 3:33-35 - “And He answered them, ‘Who are My mother and My brothers?’ And looking about at those who sat around Him, He said, ‘Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother.’”***

**I. THE PRIORITY OF LOVE**

Note: We must learn to see the mundane as monumental because every moment of every day God is present, active, and relevant!

***1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 - “Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more, and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.”***

***Deuteronomy 6:1-3 -***

1) Consider the multi-generational perspective and blessing involved in these verses!

***Deuteronomy 6:4-5 -***

2) Consider the prominence and preeminence that is given to love for God.

***Philippians 2:19-22 - “I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. (20) For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. (21) For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. (22) But you know Timothy’s proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.”***

***Deuteronomy 6:6-9 -***

3) Consider how those who love God treasure His Word.

***John 6:63-64 - “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe.”***

***Deuteronomy 6:10-19 -***

4) Consider the danger of ease and prosperity, which can so quickly tempt us to idolatry.

***1 John 5:21 - “Little children, keep yourselves from idols.”***

***Deuteronomy 6:20-25 -***

5) Consider our profound need to remember, recount, and rejoice in God’s saving, delivering grace.

***Colossians 1:13-14 - “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”***

***1 John 4:19 - “We love because He first loved us.”***

***1 Corinthians 13:1-3 - “If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.”***

**Take Home Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application…**

1. Do you think it’s easy for most Christians to think of the Body of Christ, to think of fellow believers, as family? Is it easy for you? Why or why not?
2. What does it mean to love God with “all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might” (Deuteronomy 6:5)?
3. Why is it easy to “forget the Lord” (Deuteronomy 6:12) in times of ease and prosperity? What does this reveal about our hearts?
4. Why is it a good and wonderful thing that God is jealous for His people(Deuteronomy 6:15)?
5. Why were the Israelites supposed to remember (and explain to future generations) what God had done for them in Egypt (Deuteronomy 6:20-25)? What was the purpose? What is the application for us, for our lives, from these verses? How has God saved and delivered you?