

Day 16

John 13.35

Matthew 22.37-40

Matthew 25.40

Galatians 5.6

Day 16- What Matters Most

The most important thing that you will do with your life is love. All through the Bible all the commands that people are worried about can be summed up by simply saying, "Love others as you love yourself." -Galatians 5.14b If we don't get it into our heads that life is bigger than us and stop focusing on ourselves all the time, we'll miss the point of it all.

It isn't easy. You can't learn to love others overnight, and even those who do pretty good still make mistakes. We have to keep at it until we get it right. That means we have to keep meeting in smaller groups. Times where we can get to know each other and find out about each other. We are called to love everyone, but God really wants us to love other Christians with a special effort because that is how people on the outside see that we are different.

Love can't be an item on our to do list in life. It has to be our to do list. It has to be in everything we do. It must be really important to us. God designed life to be completed by relationships, so without them we start to get lonely and miserable. How you treat other people still makes a difference after you've left the room. If you give someone a compliment and then leave to do something else, they don't stop thinking about it just because you aren't in their eyesight.

God also uses how much we love to see how much we can handle. If we never share what we are blessed with and are always selfish, what would be the point in him giving us more? In loving others we learn to give, and by giving we learn more about God and get blessed in return.

You see love most through time. Your time will run out someday; you can't make more. People have gone bankrupt and started over to make a good life, but a dead person can't get more time. So if you look at love taking time, you can see how it is an important decision. You have to put that choice above other choices. If you don't love because you don't feel like it right now, you missed the point. Imagine if parents said to their babies, "I can't change your diaper right now. I need me time." or "I don't feel like feeding you today." Love is a choice you make and you are blessed when you love even if you don't feel like it.

Don't wait to start trying to show others love. It will get harder every day you put it off. Look for ways to get to know others. Look for ways to be nice to them. Say nice things about them. Go talk to someone who no one else talks to. Try meeting someone you don't know and talk to them about God. Stop thinking about yourself and know that what God says is important, is, even when it doesn't make sense. Do it and see.

Thinking about my purpose:

Know. Life is all about love.

Remember. "The entire law is summed up in a single command, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" -Galatians 5:14 (NIV)

Think about it. Are relationships important to me? What can I do to make sure that they are?