

Loving My
Neighbor



...as myself

Matthew 22:34-40

“Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them an expert in the law, tested him with a question:”



Matthew 22:34-40

“ ‘Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’ Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’



Matthew 22:34-40

“This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself’. All the law and prophets hang on these two commandments.”



Matthew 22:34-40

“...And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself’. All the law and prophets hang on these two commandments.”



Loving myself?

Matthew 22:34-40

“...And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself...’”



Ephesians 5:29

“ After all no one
ever hated his own
body, but he feeds
and cares for it,
just as Christ does
the church...”



Isn't that

NARCISSISM?

a Greek hero who was renowned for his good looks. He was exceptionally cruel and disdained those who loved him. As punishment he fell in love with a reflection in a pool, not realizing it was his own, and perishes there, not being able to leave the beauty of his own reflection.

How can I balance?

SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Dr. Stephen Marmar

DEPENDENCY

MASTERY

GRANDIOSITY

FEELING SMALL IN A BIG

We want to remain at

GRANDIOSITY

We want to avoid

DEPENDENCY

MASTERY

FEELING SMALL

The problem is humans
tend to focus love

INWARD and wish to
be the FOCUS of
everyone's love

How does God
want it to work?

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”



Matthew 22:34-40

“ ...And the second is like

it: ‘Love your

neighbor as

yourself’ ...”



John 15:12

“My command is
this: Love each
other as I have
loved you.”



John 15:12

“Greater love has
no one than this,
that he lay down
his life for his
friends”



JESUS

- Set the example
- He loved God directly in prayer and living and indirectly through loving others **SELFLESSLY** to the point of the cross.

CONCLUSION:

God's Order

LOVE

- God first and best
- Realize it is not all about you
- Others in His family
- World that does not know him yet.