

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Dare - Part 2 The Greatest Commandment

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Introduction

We live in a society that has become more and more individualistic. “Each to their own” is the kind of mentality that makes people care less about other people and their needs. As disciples of Jesus, if we are not mindful about this, it might even seep into our understanding of worship. The apostle Paul teaches us that we are to give God our true and proper worship when we give our bodies as a living sacrifice, that is holy and pleasing to Him. But what does that look like? What do you understand this verse to mean?

Read: Romans 12:1, 9-10

Discuss

1. It takes radical faith to live a “living sacrifice” type of life. What does “radical faith” mean to you? How does this challenge your current understanding of faith and where you are at in your spiritual journey? Do you know one person who you believe have demonstrated such a life? Share.
2. Paul writes that offering our bodies as a living sacrifice is one way of worshiping God. How does this stretch your understanding of worship beyond just singing or attending church services?
3. Read Matthew 22:36-40. Jesus main commandment is counter-cultural love. We are not to live an individualistic & isolated life. Rather, we are to live among and love others as ourselves. In what way does practicing radical faith affect how we love and serve others? How does this perspective change the way you currently love others?
4. In Romans 12:9-10, Paul teaches us to let love be genuine and to outdo one another in showing honour. Why might this practice be helpful for our faith? What does that look like for you with your family, friends, colleagues, etc?

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5. One method we can use to examine the nature and quality of our relationships with others is to ask the questions – Am I more loving, more compassionate, more patient, more understanding, more caring, more giving, more forgiving towards others than I was a year ago? Take some time to reflect on this. What can you do to be more of all those things this year?
6. How can this Life group – or Crossway community, create an environment that encourages radical faith? How can we keep each other accountable in this? What practical steps can we take together?

Respond

Faith is not just for us as an individual to keep secretly to ourselves. There need to be an outward-facing action that comes from the heart. The apostle Paul teaches that we are to live a sacrificial life for others. We have been challenged to step into a life of radical faith. What is one act of radical faith, that is subjective to your own journey, would you be willing to put in place in the next two weeks? Who will keep you accountable to do it?