

Church on Mission: Loving Together

October 3, 2021 / Pastor Bob Johnson

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Sermon by Pastor Bob Johnson / Oct 3, 2021

Main Bible Text: [Matthew 22:37-40](#)

Introduction

The church's mission is the great commission.

The great commission is discipleship and evangelism

Discipleship = Growing Together

Evangelism = Going Together

The church's mission is the great commission.

The church's ministry is the great commandment.

The Mission of the church deals with its execution

The Ministry of the church deals with its expression



Understand:

The church is organic. Living entity. Not an organization and yet it must be organized!

The ministry of the church is the expression of love!

Four aspects about the Great Commandment

I. The Instruction of the Great Commandment

The instruction is to love God with all your heart

All your heart – faculties or powers. Love Him supremely, more than all other beings or things.

The instruction is to love God with all your soul

All your soul (life) – Be willing to give up the life to Him and devote it all to His service. Willing to die for Him if needed.

The instruction is to love God with all your mind

All your mind – Submit the “intellect” to His will. To love His law and gospel more than we do the decisions of our own minds.

II. The Importance of the Great Commandment

It is the “first” and greatest of all; first, not in “order of time,” but of “importance; greatest” in dignity, in excellence, in extent, and duration. It is the fountain of all others. All beings are to be loved according to their excellence. As God is the most excellent and glorious of all beings, he is to be loved supremely.

Its importance is seen in its priority

Its importance is seen in its magnitude

III. The Intent of the Great Commandments

It resembles it in importance, dignity, purity, and usefulness.

The intent is to relish God's love

The intent is to reveal God's love

LOVE FOR OTHERS

As thyself – Willing to give your life for the sake of others. Surrendering self-preservation.

IV. The Implication of the Great Commandment

The fulfillment of the law

The substance of religion

What they have said has been to endeavor to win people to love God and to love each other. Love to God and man comprehends the whole of religion, and to produce this has been the design of Moses, the prophets, the Savior, and the apostles.

CONCLUSION

The ministry of the church deals with its expression. The expression is LOVE!

The ministry of the church is the expression of love!

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. ([John 13:34-35](#))

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. ([John 15:12](#))

These things I command you, that ye love one another. ([John 15:17](#))

For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ([1 John 3:11](#))

And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. ([1 John 3:23](#))

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. ([1 John 4:7](#))

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. ([1 John 4:11](#))

What do you really have if you don't have love?

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. ([1 Corinthians 13:1-3](#))

LOVING TOGETHER

The ministry of the church is the expression of love!