

October 22 ("Being Human Like Jesus")

Verses: Mark 12:28-31

Main Verse: Mark 12:30-31

Takeaway: To be human as God originally designed us, we should listen and look to Jesus, since only he has loved God and others perfectly.

Getting Started: When you want to learn something new, what do you do? Who do you look to?

Read: Mark 12:28-31

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What does the scribe ask Jesus?
- How does Jesus respond? What do his answers have in common?
- Who is the only person who has been able to fulfill these commandments? Why is that such good news for us?

Elementary:

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Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses :

Toddler/PreK:

- The scribe asks Jesus which commandment is most important.
- Jesus responds with two commandments: to love God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength; and to love your neighbor as yourself.
- Jesus is the only person to be able to perfectly keep these commandments. He models for us how we should live as God wants us to live.
- Through faith in Jesus, we learn how and can find power to live the way God wants us to live.

Elementary:

- The scribe asks Jesus which commandment is most important.
- Jesus responds by quoting Deuteronomy 6:4-5 for the first commandment, but adds a second commandment ("You shall love your neighbor as yourself") as being equally important.
- The faithful covenant keeping God asks those He loves to love Him and to love other people. Jesus models for us how we should live as God wants us to live.
- Only Jesus is able to perfectly fulfill these commandments which is good news for those who are in God through faith in Jesus. Even though we will never be able to perfectly fulfill God's commandments, in Jesus, we are considered righteous before God as we surrender to His loving leadership in our lives.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God, thanking Him for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin and teach us how to live for Him through a life of loving God and others. Ask Him to help you learn more about Him as you grow. Ask Him to help you to love others the way He loves you and them.

(Elementary) Talk to God. Thank Him for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin and teach us to live for Him. Thank Him that Jesus lived a perfect life, and fulfilled all of God's commandments so that through faith in Him, we too can be considered righteous before God. Ask Him to help you to love Him more each day, and to see and love other people as He loves you. Have you surrendered your life to God? Is He calling you today? If so, you might want to pray in this way: Admit you are guilty of living a me-centered life instead of a God-centered one. Believe that Jesus is your only hope for forgiveness, freedom, and forever with God. With your whole heart and being, commit yourself to following Jesus' loving leadership. If you pray this, or have questions about what it means, talk to a trusted adult in your life about it.