



GROW IN CHRIST

Matthew 22:36–40 English Standard Version (ESV)

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Can we separate loving God and loving people? Why? Why not?

Do you lean towards loving God or loving others? How can you work on not avoiding the one that come naturally to you?

John 21:15–22 New International Version (NIV)

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”)

When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”

Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”

How much time and energy do you spend and consume on trying to control things that are outside of your control? Talk about walking your own path. Talk about how you can't make someone else walk your path and how you can't walk someone else's path for them.

Read: Matthew 6v19-7v14

How can you become more aware of where your treasure lies? Do you primarily have a good eye or a bad eye? What are some tangible ways you can put more trust in God? How can you learn to assume the best in others more routinely?