

**What is the greatest command?**

How do we go deeper with God.

1. Love is demonstrated, acted out, love gives.

Matthew 22:37-38 The Passion version. <sup>37</sup> Jesus answered him, **“Love the Lord your God with every passion of your heart, with all the energy of your being, and with every thought that is within you.”** <sup>38</sup> **This is the great and supreme commandment.’**

2. Give Him heartfelt thanks with the same passion and energy – this shows our love for Him. We bring Him thanks and praise. We don’t have to do things, but we do get to do things because we love Him. We are to count our blessings – not forget all the benefits as Psalm 103 says. **‘With my whole heart, with my whole life, and with my innermost being, I bow in wonder and love before You, the holy God! <sup>2</sup> Yahweh, You are my soul’s celebration. How could I ever forget the miracles of kindness You’ve done for me? <sup>3</sup> You kissed my heart with forgiveness, in spite of all I’ve done. You’ve healed me inside and out from every disease. <sup>4</sup> You’ve rescued me from hell and saved my life. You’ve crowned me with love and mercy. <sup>5</sup> You satisfy my every desire with good things. You’ve supercharged my life so that I soar again like a flying eagle in the sky! <sup>6</sup> You’re a God who makes things right, giving justice to the defenceless. <sup>7</sup> You unveiled to Moses Your plans and showed Israel’s sons what You could do. <sup>8</sup> Lord, You’re so kind and tender-hearted to those who don’t deserve it and so patient with people who fail You! Your love is like a flooding river overflowing its banks with kindness. <sup>9</sup> You don’t look at us only to find our faults, just so that You can hold a grudge against us. <sup>10</sup> You may discipline us for our many sins, but never as much as we really deserve. Nor do You get even with us for what we’ve done. <sup>11</sup> Higher than the highest heavens—that’s how high Your tender mercy extends! Greater than the grandeur of heaven above is the greatness of Your loyal love, towering over all who fear You and bow down before You! <sup>12</sup> Farther than from a sunrise to a sunset— that’s how far You’ve removed our guilt from us. <sup>13</sup> The same way a loving father feels toward his children— that’s but a sample of Your tender feelings toward us, Your beloved children, who live in awe of you.’**

Non-compulsory homework ☺ Count and write down your blessings.

3. Give Him authentic praise; real adoration. Shout, continual praise – declaring who He is and what He does. Psalm 8:

**‘Lord, Your name is so great and powerful! People everywhere see Your splendour. Your glorious majesty streams from the heavens, filling the earth with the fame of Your name! <sup>2</sup> You have built a stronghold by the songs of babies. Strength rises up with the chorus of singing children. This kind of praise has the power to shut Satan’s mouth. Childlike worship will silence the madness of those who oppose You.’**

4. Give Him glorious and true worship – sing a new song – the song on your heart of salvation and of freedom in Jesus; a surrendered song.

5. Matthew 22:39:

**<sup>39</sup> And the second is like it in importance: ‘You must love your friend in the same way you love yourself.’**

With the same passion and energy, we love God, we love our friends – the same way. Love towards God is powerful – love towards others is tangible.

We are all learning to submit to God and do things His ways. Remembering **He is for us**, He is our greatest Advocate, cheering us on; remembering **He is with us**, everywhere and all time; remembering **He is working through us**, keep going and be blessed to overflowing.