

Sermon Notes:

Passage: Mark 12:28-34

1. **Who is your Lord? Is He the one and only?**

-There are more things today than ever before that are competing for our attention and affection. Is God your only Lord? This is something that only each one of us can answer within ourselves.

2. **Ways we Love God**

Jesus describes "four elements essential to every true expression of faith: loving God with all our heart (**adoration**), soul (**will**), mind (**belief**), and strength (**body**)

In the same way we all have our love languages. The ways we communicate love and receive love from others,

5 Love Languages:

quality time, physical touch, acts of service, giving and receiving gifts, and words of affirmation.

We also have our own individual leanings when it comes to how we connect with God. How we feel and hear from God.

Eight Sacred Pathways: (adjusted from Sacred Pathways: Gary Thomas)

1. **Naturalists:** Loving God Outdoors
2. **Sensates:** Loving God with the Senses
3. **Traditionalists:** Loving God through Ritual and Symbol
4. **Ascetics/Contemplatives:** Loving God in Solitude, Simplicity, Adoration.
5. **Activists:** Loving God through Social Action
6. **Caregivers/Servers:** Loving God by Loving Others
7. **Enthusiasts:** Loving God with Mystery, Celebration and the supernatural
8. **Intellectuals:** Loving God with the mind

Pitfalls:

1. Only one way is not ok
2. We are not meant to stay alone
3. Thinking that our pathway is the most important

the second is equally important.....how we love others.

the idea of just loving God without loving others in the process is another pitfall. God put these two up side by side. We reveal our love for God by loving others.

Love Languages with God: Study Notes

This is played out individually, but also as a community. We look for ways we can love our community.

Life Group Discussion

(feel free to use any or all of these questions)

Start Up Questions:

1. Looking at the 5 love languages listed above, which describes you best? **5 Love Languages:** quality time, physical touch, acts of service, giving and receiving gifts, and words of affirmation.

Study & Discussion:

Read together: [Mark 12:28-34](#)

1. What are some things that stick out to you in this passage or speak to you?
2. When it comes to loving God, how does this look in your opinion?
3. The first part of what Jesus says refers to the fact of having only one God. What warning signals do you see in your life that point to the fact that maybe other things have started to creep in? What do you do about it?

Sacred Pathways Survey:

1. Each person do the sacred pathways survey that was attached to this weeks sermon and share your results with your group.
2. Does this give you a better idea of how you most naturally connect to God? What pathways would you like to grow in?

Prayer: (this can be done before or after the study)

1. Pray for someone in your life that does not know salvation through Jesus.
2. What would you personally like to receive prayer for today?