



## Close Encounters #5: Love the Lord Your God

October 7 & 8, 2023

Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Matthew 5:17; Matthew 22:37-40

**Opener:** What are some rules or laws that your parents or lawmakers imposed on you that you wanted to rebel against? Why was it hard to accept it? Did you try to understand the reason for the rule or law?

### Go Deeper:

1. Read Deuteronomy 5:5-21. Why did God give these Ten Commandments to the Israelites?
2. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 18. How does this instruction feel vs. the Ten Commandments?
3. Read Matthew 22:37-40. How is Jesus' instruction to the expert in the law similar to the law given through Moses? How is it different? What is newly added, clarified?
4. How does greatest and second greatest commandment given by Jesus align with the Ten Commandments? Which of the Ten Commandments are related to loving God, which are related to loving thy neighbor?
5. Read Matthew 5:17. What does it mean to know that the law is not abolished, but is fulfilled?

## Live It:

1. What role does God's law play in your faith life?
2. Do you feel God's love expressed in His law? What does it mean to you when God says, "so that it may go well with you"?
3. Think of an example when it felt better to give love than to receive love. How is this joy different from receiving love?
4. Why are laws important even though we know we will fail? How does it feel to know that Jesus has already fulfilled the law?



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### GOD TIME:

#### Daily Bible Readings:

Sunday:	Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Monday:	Exodus 32:1-14
Tuesday:	Deuteronomy 15:7-11
Wednesday:	Deuteronomy 16:18-20
Thursday:	Deuteronomy 17:14-20
Friday:	Deuteronomy 24:17-22
Saturday:	Deuteronomy 26:1-11

\*The readings selected come from the Narrative Lectionary calendar our sermon series is based on.

