



Luke 10:25-28

12.12.09

God First

One should **love God** with all that one is;
the whole of human nature is included.

Leon Morris, Luke, 205.

Loving God first as a matter of the heart
puts all our other loves

in their rightful place and in their right proportion...

If we do not seek our happiness in God

and make him our perfect and everlasting happiness,

then every good thing becomes a substitute for God; it becomes an idol.

John Ensor, Doing Things Right in Matters of the Heart, 46.

Others Second

There is nothing so unromantic as love.

Romantic feelings of attraction and pleasure will sometimes be associated with love, but the essence of love is different:

a commitment to act for another's welfare.

David Powlison, "Getting to the Heart of Conflict: Anger, Part 3." *The Journal of Biblical Counseling*, Vol. 16, No. 3. p. 40.

FOR DISCUSSION

- What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind? What does it mean to love others as yourself?
- Steve read some questions that he's heard teenagers ask about relationships. What questions do you have about relationships with the opposite sex?
- What are some ways that Jesus gives us the perfect example of living for God first and others second?
- Can you think of ways you've been serving yourself instead of serving others? How does God want you to live instead?
- When it comes to relationships, is there anything about your attitude that keeps you from loving God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind? Is there anything about your actions that keeps others from loving God with all their heart, soul, strength and mind?

