

### LOVING GOD WITH ALL OF YOUR STRENGTH

*One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*

Mark 12:28-31 (NIV)

❖ Loving God with all your STRENGTH:

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."*

Mark 12:30 (NIV)

1. To Love God with our PHYSICAL POWER.

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.*

Ephesians 6:10 (NIV)

2. To Love God with our PERSONAL RESOURCES.

*So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and steady, always enthusiastic about the Lord's work, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.*

1 Corinthians 15:58

3. To Love God with our FAITHFUL PERSEVERANCE.

*You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.*

James 5:8 (NIV)

❖ Loving God with all your Strength relates to our SERVICE and MINISTRY.

*Your attitude must be like My Own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve...*

Matthew 20:28 (LB)

1. Serving like Jesus means being AVAILABLE when called upon to serve.

*Two blind men... shouted, "Lord, have mercy on us!" ... Jesus stopped and called to them. "What do you want Me to do for you?"*

Matthew 20:30;32

2. Serving like Jesus means being GRATEFUL for the opportunity to serve.

*Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard Me. I knew that you always hear Me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here."*

John 11:41-42 (NIV)

3. Serving like Jesus means being FAITHFUL in fulfilling your service.  
*I have brought You glory on earth by completing the work You gave me to do.*  
John 17:4 (NIV)

❖ How We Can Love God With All Of Our Strength:

1. We can love God with the strength of our HANDS.  
*"And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."*  
Matthew 10:42 (NIV)

*...make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you,*  
1 Thessalonians 4:11 (NIV)

2. We can love God with the strength of our FEET.  
*And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*  
Romans 10:15 (NLT)

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me..."The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'*

Matthew 25:35-36;40 (NIV)

3. We can love Him with the strength of our VOICE.  
*Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.*  
Proverbs 31:8-9 (NIV)

❖ Are you using your Strength for the glory of God and the salvation of others?