

Every week under the “questions to consider” I use some verses from Matthew 22, but I’ve never really focused on the last part of it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Here, Jesus implies that I love myself. But what if I don’t? What if I’ve never learned to love myself because I wasn’t shown how to? What if I thought that loving is based on performance, and my own actions have failed me? What if I thought that love is a feeling instead of an action, and I don’t feel anything? What if I’m so guilt-ridden with my sin that I don’t love myself and I feel God could never love me? How do I learn to love myself?

I’ve struggled with all of these questions over the years, but this is true: I’m on a journey where God is teaching me to be more like Jesus because He loves me. Being in the midst of a broken world with broken relationships can feel overwhelming, like there’s no hope. And if I watch movies or listen to many of the songs on the radio, their idea of love is so different than what God teaches.

If I want to learn to love myself and others, then I have to look to God. He is the only One that is perfect, and He provided a perfect example in His Son, Jesus. I’m learning to love myself by meeting with other believers who reaffirm God’s truths. I’m confessing my faults to my family so they can forgive me. I’m asking my husband on a date because I need the time to reconnect with him. I’m praying so that I can share my needs with my Father. I’m listening to Christian music because I want God’s words to penetrate my heart. I’m serving others which gives me a perspective of how blessed I am. I’m reading Scripture because I need to hear truth.

Perhaps you’re like me and you struggle with the idea of loving yourself, but I believe it’s a message Jesus wants us to hear: we are loved – very deeply and intimately loved! I recently heard the song [“Someone Worth Dying For”](#) by MIKESCHAIR. The chorus says

You are more than flesh and bone  
 Can't you see you're something beautiful  
 Yeah you gotta believe, you gotta believe  
 He wants you to see, He wants you to see  
 That you're not just some wandering soul  
 That can't be seen and can't be known  
 Yeah you gotta believe, you gotta believe that you  
 Are someone worth dying for . . .

Do you believe you are worth dying for? If so, it will change your life.

### Questions to consider:

The Greatest Commandment is “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, 39) Do I love myself? What are ways I show it?

When I interact with people, am I a fragrant offering to God? Do I make the most of every opportunity God gives me? Am I wise in my relationships? Am I filled with the Spirit? Am I singing praises? Am I thankful? Am I submitting to the authorities in my life, including Jesus? (see Ephesians 5)

What is the plank in my own eye? (see Matthew 7)

Have I chosen life? (see Deuteronomy 30)

If I'm not meeting with other Christians in a small group setting, am I willing to join an Mgroup?

Am I getting to know the love of Christ so that I can start to make relationships right? (see Ephesians 3)

**This month's memory verse:** *This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live. (Deu 30:19 TNIV)*

**Additional verses:** *Ephesians 5:1-2, 15-16, 18-22, 25-26, 33; Ephesians 3:14-19, 4:1-3; Colossians 3:18-20; Matthew 7:3-5, Deuteronomy 30:15-19, John 10:10*

## **REMINDERS:**

**10.9 – The Gathering at the 5/6 BUILDING at 6pm!!!** *Mosaic Family II.*

Pastor Rich Clay leads us into the text looking at relationships & marriage.

**10.16 – The Gathering at the 5/6 BUILDING at 6pm!!!** *Mosaic Family III.*

*\*\*\*3rd: culture project moved to the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday...we need leaves!\*\*\**

How to build and keep God honoring parent-child relationships & vice versa

**10.23 – The Gathering at the 5/6 BUILDING at 6pm!!!** *Mosaic Family IV.*

How big and important is all of God's family? This Sunday we have a powerful reminder from our African missionaries (RAH) & newlyweds! Don't miss it

**10.30 – FAMILY FALL FEST & RAKE N' RUN!!!** We'll start our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Family Night by serving a few families in our area who need their lawns raked. Meet in Senorita's parking lot (across from Spotted Cow) by 3pm with your rakes & gloves. Then after raking, we'll head out to Heritage Park for our Family Fall Fest from 6-8pm...hay rides, hot dogs, ice cream sundaes & bon fire! All FREE...bring your family & friends!!!