Lesson 5 - The Great Commandment

Review

What were your top takeaways from Lesson #4?

Have a few more people share their end visions from the previous lesson.

7 Ongoing Elements in a Movement (7 Ways to Raise the Sails for Movement)

1. **Focus on God's Word** (palms up and hands together like a book)
2. **Multiply Extraordinary Prayer** (Cross arms like an X)
3. **Cast Vision** (like you're holding a fishing pole and casting line)
4. **Train Believers to go out among the lost** (like your curling dumbbells)
5. **Go Out Among the lost** (point upward and to the side)
6. **See Groups Start** (hand roll)
7. **Ongoing Coaching** (baseball signals with your hands)

Mark 12:28-31

What did Jesus say is the most important commandment?

Have someone read Mark 12:28-31 out loud.

Does anybody know what Jesus was quoting from?

Jesus is quoting Scripture from Deuteronomy 6:4-5. This section in Deuteronomy is called the "Shema" [shuh-mah]. It is considered the most important idea in the Jewish faith. It is a centerpiece of the morning and evening Jewish prayer services. It is common for parents to teach their children to say it before they go to sleep at night. *Shema* is the first Hebrew word in Deuteronomy 6:4 which is translated "hear." To the Jews, however, it isn't merely to hear, but "to hear to obey."

Have someone read John 14:15 and John 15:10.

- What are these verses saying? Loving the Lord means obeying him. God's love language is loving obedience. Love and obedience are like two sides of the same coin.
- Ask: "Is there any way to realistically separate the two sides of this coin?" Both sides of the coin look different, but it's just one coin.

We see in Deuteronomy 6 and other passages that God wants us to live a Shema Lifestyle. Hearing & obeying God is vitally important to our relationship with the Lord.

Shema Lifestyle

A Shema lifestyle consists of Shema actions & Shema statements.

- Shema actions are actions we take to serve other people.
- Shema statements are the reasons we give for those actions.

A Shema Lifestyle (Shema actions & statements) brings us close to the Lord & it also helps us "live out loud." When people observe a follower of Jesus living a Shema Lifestyle, they are oftentimes interested in learning more.

Shema actions without Shema statements give you the credit rather than God. Shema statements without Shema actions are hypocritical.

Living a Shema lifestyle is foundational. It's an essential first step in learning to reach the lost.

Around the world, the number #1 way DMMers find those interested in God is by

serving them (healing prayer, kind deed, community service) while consistently, simultaneously, and culturally appropriately pointing to God.

[*Option to break into groups*. Small groups ~4. Have them answer: What did you hear in this section? Give them about 5 minutes in small group.]

Moving from Shema to Making Disciples

1. Everyday Shema
    - "Shema actions" show that we care about people and live out the command to love our neighbors in practical ways. Such actions, however, have to be done with corresponding "Shema statements" that clearly express the motive for our love.
    - What are things you can do and say in your everyday life that show others that you love and obey God?
    - Discuss some examples of Shema actions & corresponding Shema statements.

2. Intentional Sharing of Good News
    - We are not talking about a "gospel presentation" like the 4 Spiritual Laws or telling the "whole" story about Jesus. Instead we are focused on sharing some element of God's Scripture or a personal experience with God that tells some part of God's good news that relates to that situation. When Jesus shared "good news" with people he "customized" it to their situation and did not share a formulaic presentation.

    Note: Many people either lean towards a "Shema Lifestyle" or "Sharing the Good News." We need to do both!

3. Invitation to Discovery Group
    - Discuss as a group: "How do you think you move from sharing the Good News to starting a Discovery Group?"
    - The key is actually inviting the oikos to start discovering God through reading the Bible together.
    - Write down a Discovery Group invitation statement. Discuss and agree on a common one as a group (you are free to adapt as needed).

DBS - Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1. What are you thankful for today?
2. What are you stressed about or struggling with?
3. Is there anything this group can do to help with those challenges or stresses, or is there any other need we can meet together?

Review:

- Can anyone remember and share in their own words the passage we applied last week? (Romans 15:16-23)
- Did you DO what you said you were going to do last week and did you SHARE with the person you said you would share with?
- How did 3-2-1 go (3 hours with Jesus this week, 2 hours among the lost, 1 hour in corporate prayer)?

Have 2 people read Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (ideally in 2 different translations).
Have everyone restate it in their own words (let the group help people to get it right).

4. What does this passage teach us about God?
5. What does this passage teach us about people?
5b. How does this passage instruct us to make disciples? (added for this lesson)
6. What should you do this week in response to this passage? (I will...)
7. Who should you share with this week?

Large Group Discussion

- Can this be applied to our “spiritual children”? How?
- How would you need to change your daily routine in order to impress these commands on your children?
- Can this be obeyed without speaking? Why not?
- Who was called to obey these commands?

It’s so important that we follow through with our “I will” statements for two primary reasons:

1. It demonstrates to God, through our obedience, that we love him.
2. Our obedience, or lack thereof, is being closely observed by those we are discipling and if we don’t take obedience seriously, neither will those imitating our life.

Challenge This Week

- Do 3 Shema Actions/Statements between now and our next training.