

RE-OPENING CHRISTIANITY:

Am I in Love with Jesus or _____?

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The First Commandment reminds us that God is to be first. Yet, every one of us struggles with putting other things before God. We all struggle with idolatry. We are reminded that nothing – no matter how good – is to come before God. He is our focus and our hope.

“You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all the nations you will be my treasured possession.”

– Exodus 19:4-5, NIV

My Next Step(s):

- I will reflect upon what captures my love and affection rather than God.
- I will partner with God in His work on earth, according to Ephesians 2:10.
- I will understand that my covenant with God is not just one of law, but of love.
- I will lay down any idols and false loves that have usurped God’s place in my heart.
- I will rejoice that I have been bought by—and given—Christ’s Love.

Memory Verse: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me.” - Exodus 20:2-3, NIV

(Continues on back.)

(This message uses materials provided The Preaching Project, San Antonio, TX.)



Re-Opening
CHRISTIANITY

*How can the church re-open **for**
the better?*

Am I open
Or am I closed off?

*Am I a **Contributor**
Or a **Consumer?***

*Am I Playing **Offense**
Or **Defense?***

Am I Known for What I'm
For or Against?

*Am I in love with **God** or
_____?*

“He’s the one – Mr. Right!”

Love is that thing you **give your life**
for when you believe it's worth it.

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for when you believe it's **worth** it.

You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you **obey me fully and keep my covenant**, then out of all the nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation...

EXODUS 19:4-8

So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the Lord had commanded him to speak. The people responded together, **“We will do everything the Lord has said.”** So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord.

EXODUS 19:4-8

#1

Loving God is **Covenantal**

Covenant =
partnership officially agreeing to work
towards one goal, one mission

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@7eandra

Those who have stayed inside, wore masks in public, and socially distanced during this entire pandemic are the same people who are used to doing the whole group project by themselves



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

**I THINK WE CAN
STOP BRAGGING
ABOUT HAVING BEEN
THROUGH THE
BLIZZARD OF 77.**

2020 WINS

When it hasn't been your day, your
week, your month, or even your year.



#2020

Covenant =
partnership officially agreeing to work
towards one goal, one mission

*A covenant... could be said to be a stunning
blend of both **law** and **love**.*

– Tim Keller, Preaching

“I am, the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

EXODUS 20:1-5

“You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God...”

EXODUS 20:1-5

#2

Loving God is **Difficult**

Love is that thing you **give** your life
for when you believe it's **worth** it.

hesed

steadfast love // mercy // covenant faithfulness

חֶסֶד

Idol =
any **false love** you give your life to

¹⁷ As Jesus started on His way, a man ran up to Him and fell on his knees before Him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “**what must I do** to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ “Why do you call Me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone.

MARK 10:17-22

¹⁷ As Jesus started on His way, a man ran up to Him and fell on his knees before Him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ “**Why do you call Me good?**”

Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone.

MARK 10:17-22

¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.

²⁰ “Teacher,” he declared, “**all these I have kept** since I was a boy.”

MARK 10:17-22

²¹ Jesus looked at him and **loved him**.
“One thing you lack,” He said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me.” ²² At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

MARK 10:17-22

#3

Loving God is **Costly**

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with **all** your heart and with **all** your soul and with **all** your mind.”

MATTHEW 22:37

“Who then can be saved?”

MARK 10:26

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God; all things are **possible with God.**”

MARK 10:27

Love is that thing you give your life
for when you believe it's **worth** it.

You are not your own, you were
bought with a **price**.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:20

*Am I in love with **God** or
_____?*

“neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to to separate us from the **love of God** that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:38-39

