



(PROJECT) RED: Learning and Living the Words of Jesus

(ESSENTIALS) RED

"LORD... YOU HAVE THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE." — JOHN 6:68

Week 7 of 9

Kitchen Nightmares & Sebastian's 20 flavor combinations -> one page menu

Barry Schwartz (The Paradox of Choice):

As freedom of choice increases, happiness decreases.

AS A BORDERLINE ADD, I'm attracted to distraction, and our society is noisy...

The entire teaching of the Bible can be summarized in **f o u r**
s i m p l e principles or **c o m m a n d s**.

How do I know this? Jesus teaches it.

#1. "LOVE GOD"

... "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

... All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

Matthew 22:40

When God comes first, everything else falls into place.

HEART (EMOTION)How I **f e e l** is colored by an overall **d e s i r e** for God.

ILL: As a child, I found it hard to love God... I found it hard to love at all.

SOUL (INTIMACY)How I **r e l a t e** is shaped by a **c l o s e n e s s** with God.**MIND (THOUGHTS)**How I **t h i n k** about things is bounded by the **w o r d s** of God.**STRENGTH (ACTION)**How I **u s e** what I have is expanded by the **d e s i r e s** of God.**#2 "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF"**

society tells us to love ourselves... but another way is to pour my love into God, receive
 his love for me and let that spill over to others.

ILL: Learning to love, God gave me Jennifer -> Charlie -> Baby bunny.

LOVING OTHERS BIBLICALLY

- ▶ I choose to **s e e k** the **b e s t** for others.
- ▶ I choose to "**d o l i f e**" with others.
- ▶ I choose to **w o r k** the relationship (forgiveness and reconciliation).

#3 "FOLLOW ME"

ILL: Love makes people do silly things... running red lights... LOVE => Changes me

Following Jesus means **g o i n g** where **h e g o e s**.

...he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

Matthew 9:9

Following Jesus means **d o i n g** what **h e d o e s**.

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

John 13:15

ILL: People feel loved when you know their names... people's names in Chicago

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Matthew 16:24

Following Jesus means **f o c u s i n g** on him over anything else.

When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

John 21:21-22

#4 "MAKE DISCIPLES" — (REPRODUCE YOURSELVES)

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

If we love God, we will love those whom he loves, grow to become like Jesus and serve others so **o** they love him too.



ALL OF THE BIBLE BOILS DOWN TO FOUR SIMPLE PRINCIPLES.