

1. To love the LORD our God

- a) Deuteronomy 6:4 What truths are contained in the Shema?
- b) Why is Deuteronomy 6:5 also important in the context of the Shema?
- c) What is the significance of the fact that the possessive adjective “your” always appears in the singular?
- d) What does it mean to love the LORD your God with all your heart, soul, and might?

2. To fear the LORD our God

- a) Deuteronomy 6:2, 10:12 What does it mean to fear the LORD?
- b) What can we learn about the expression “fear the LORD” from the Psalmist David? Psalm 2:11, 19:9a, 34:8-9
- c) What insight did David’s son Solomon provide about what it means to fear the LORD? Proverbs 9:10
- d) Why is the appeal to “fear God” included in the last warning message to the world? Revelation 14:6-7
- e) Can the expression “fear of the LORD” also mean to be afraid? Support your answer from Scripture.
- f) Why are some afraid of God while others draw near to God with loving reverence?

3. To obey the LORD our God, motivated by love

- a) Deuteronomy 11:1 What comes first, loving God or obedience that is pleasing to the LORD? Why?
- b) What teaching of Jesus reinforces the idea that love for God comes first, followed by loving obedience? John 14:15
- c) How does the apostle John support this idea that our love for God is demonstrated by our loving obedience to His commandments? 1 John 5:3
- d) When is compliance with God’s commandments totally unacceptable to Him? Matthew 15:8, Luke 18:10-14

4. The first and greatest commandment

- a) How did Jesus regard the instruction recorded by the prophet Moses in Deuteronomy 6:5? Matthew 22:34-38
- b) What motivates us to love the LORD our God with all our heart, soul, and might? Deuteronomy 4:37, 7:7-8, 33:3, 1 John 4:9-10,19 (other texts?)
- c) How does the first and great commandment relate to the Ten Commandments given by God on Mount Sinai?
- d) Share a time when God’s immeasurable love for you compelled you to love Him with all your heart.

