

## Following God – The Greatest Commandment

Jesus said:

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Mark 12:30-31*

We love as Jesus does by being kind, helpful, thoughtful and obedient. When we love God and others, we say yes to God. We are choosing to obey all His commandments.

Jesus says whatever we do to others, we do to Him. The word “neighbor” means everyone – people who are easy to love, people who are difficult to love, people we know, and people we might not ever know. God calls us to love EVERYONE. We are called to help others in whatever way we can. We are not to hurt other people either by our words or actions.

### Jesus’ Love In Motion

Here is a special way to remember Jesus’ two Great Commandments. As you read the words of the poem below, learn and follow the actions together.



I’ll love God with  
all my heart,



in the way God loved  
me from the start.

I’ll love God with  
all my soul



with a love that comes  
complete and whole.

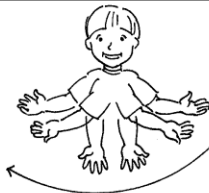


I’ll love God with  
my mind today,

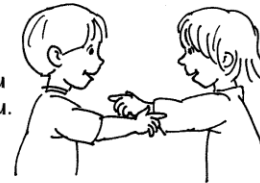


in all that I think  
and all that I say.

I’ll love all my  
neighbors too,



like you and you  
and you and you.



I’ll love myself, a  
creature of God,



who made us all  
to live in love.

Take some time to discuss how as a family you put God first in your lives. Encourage your child to think of specific ways of being kind and giving to ALL people.

Prayer:

*Dear Jesus, help me to be loving. Help me to keep God at the center of my life. Thank you for all I am and all that I have. Amen.*