



CENTENARY
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2ND/3RD GRADE

CHRIST

OTHERS

SECOND



FIRST

Memory Verse for the 2nd/3rd Grade: Matthew 22:35–40

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Week 1: What is I AM 3RD?

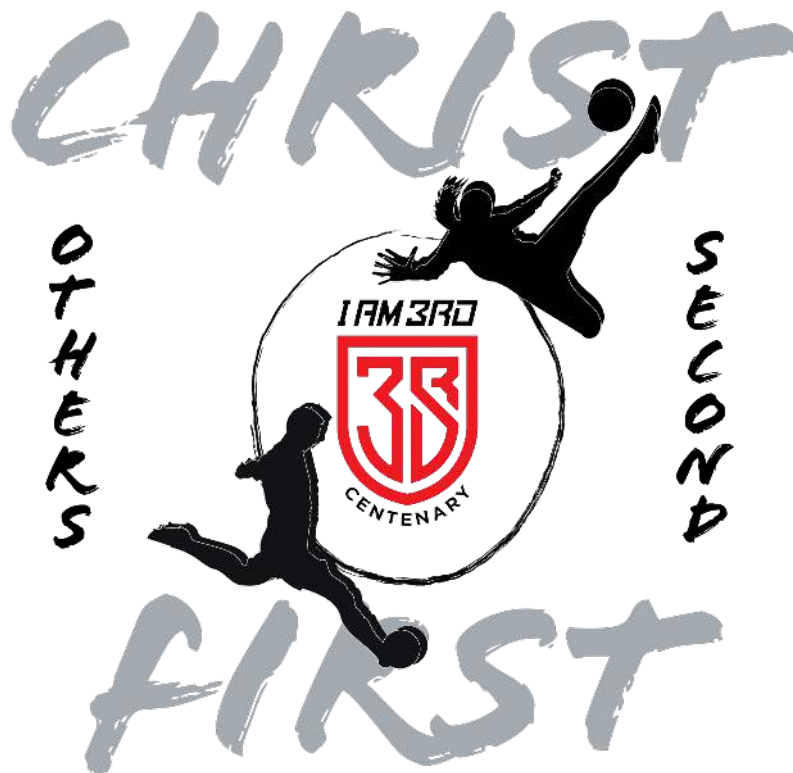
I AM 3RD is based on a simple belief that Jesus Christ is first, others are second, and I am third.

We strongly believe that Jesus Christ is the most important person in our lives. (Matthew 25:40)

Doing our best in everything: We want to work at everything with all our hearts, as if we are working for the Lord. (Colossians 3:23-24)

Studying Scripture: We believe all Scripture is God-breathed (from God) and is useful for teaching, correcting, and training in goodness, so that through studying Scripture we may be equipped (ready) for every good work.

It is our prayer that we would gain a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Christ through our weekly devotions and times of prayer, in order to help us learn more about Jesus Christ and His importance in our lives. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)



Week 2: “...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

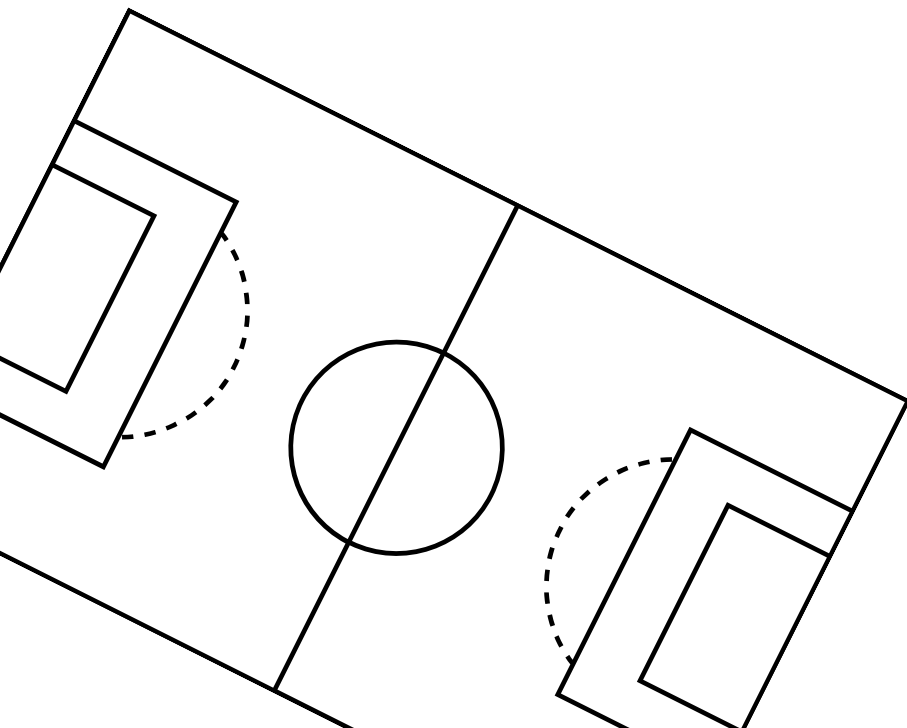
This soccer season we will be memorizing Jesus’s teaching on the greatest commandment in Matthew 22:35-40. When Jesus was on Earth it was common to ask teachers what they believed was the greatest commandment in the Old Testament. On this occasion, a lawyer, which in the Bible is someone who knows the Old Testament well, asks Jesus this question to see what He will say in comparison to other teachers. Jesus’s response is really important for us to know. As followers of Jesus, we should know what He believes is the most important commandment!

Questions:

Does anyone already know the Greatest Commandment? If you could ask Jesus a question, what would it be?

Memory Verse:

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.
“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”





Week 3: “He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart...”

Last week we talked about how it was common for teachers in Jesus’s day to discuss what they believed was the greatest commandment. As Jesus begins his answer, he says, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.” What does it mean to love something with all your heart? It means that your heart is fully devoted to God. But that does not mean we cannot love anyone else. Imagine you have a water bottle, and you fill it with water all the way to the top. Nothing else can fit without spilling some of the water. The same is true when we love God with all our hearts. If your heart is so full of love for God, that love will overflow and change the way you love people. When we love God with all our hearts, we can love people even better than we could before.

Questions:

What is an example of how your love for God changed the way you loved someone?

Memory Verse:

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? “He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart...”



Week 4: “...and with all your soul...”

Last week we talked about what it means to love God with all our heart. We often think about love as something that comes from our heart. So what does it mean to love God with our soul? Your soul is the innermost part of yourself. As Jesus is teaching us about the Greatest Commandment, He shows that there is no part of us that we should hold back from our love of God. God wants to be involved in all that we are. He wants us to love Him with all that we are.

Questions:

How can you love God with all your heart? How can you love God with all your soul?

Memory Verse:

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? “He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul...”

Week 5: “and with all your mind.”

Last week we talked about how God wants us to love Him with all that we are. The last part of ourselves that Jesus teaches us to love God with is our mind. The mind is our center of thought and knowledge. So how do we love God with all our mind? You are doing one example right now: memorizing Bible verses! When we memorize the Bible, it changes the way we think and act because we can remember the Bible’s wisdom even in difficult moments. Beyond memorization it is helpful to read your Bible often and take the time to reflect on what you can learn from it. Another way to love God with your mind is to consider what we put into our mind. God is really creative. He made the whole world, after all! He loves art and music and all sorts of creative things. But that does not mean that all things are helpful to our minds. It can be important to monitor how what we watch and what we listen to affects us.

Questions:

What is another way to love God with your mind?

Memory Verse:

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? “He said to him, ““You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”





Week 6: “This is the greatest and first commandment.”

Jesus teaches us that the greatest commandment is to love God with everything that we are. There is no part of us that we should hold back from God. Our love for God should fill every part of our lives. We don't always think about God when we are at school, playing soccer, or doing chores. It can be easy to only think about Him at church or when you pray. But Jesus teaches us to love God with all that we are and not to place Him to the side only for special, spiritual events. Everything that we do should be for the glory of God and out of love for Him.

Questions:

What are some ways you can include God in your life outside of church?

Memory Verse:

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? “He said to him, ““You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment.”



Week 7: “And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

When we think of something or someone being the greatest, our minds generally think of one thing. In sports people argue over who is the greatest player of all time. If you know the greatest ice cream place, that means it's better than all the rest, right? That's why it is so interesting that Jesus gives two answers to the question of the greatest commandment. After discussing the first commandment to love God with all that you are, Jesus immediately adds a second commandment: to love your neighbor as yourself. For Jesus, these two commandments are uniquely tangled together. You cannot have one without the other. God loves people so much that you cannot love God and not love your neighbor. Jesus calls us to do both!

Questions:

What do you think it looks like to love your neighbor as yourself?

Memory Verse:

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? “He said to him, ““You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. “And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Week 8: “On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

In the Old Testament there are 613 commandments to follow. That is a lot of work and a lot to keep track of! Thankfully, Jesus teaches us that if we follow the two greatest commandments, we will also fulfill all of the others. Unfortunately, that doesn't mean these two commandments are easy to follow. It can be really hard to love God with all that we are, and it may be even harder to love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves. But that is the lifelong journey of being a follower of Jesus. It is to grow perfect in our love for God and our love for people. It is not an easy journey, but it is a wonderful and fulfilling way to live life.

Questions:

Why might it be challenging to love your neighbor as much as you love yourself?

Memory Verse:

“...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? “He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. “And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Great work! You have memorized the whole passage for this soccer season!



Week 9: Summary

This soccer season we have studied Jesus's teaching on the greatest commandment: to love God with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Jesus teaches us that following these two commandments fulfills the whole Old Testament. This is a great passage to have memorized because it helps us walk through all situations in life. We can all benefit from asking ourselves if we are loving God and our neighbor with our words, actions, and choices.

Questions:

What is one way you can show your love for God this week in your words, actions, and choices?

Memory Verse:

"...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? "He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. "And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."



Week 10: Season Reflection and Review

What will you take away from the devotional time this season? What are some memories you made?





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