

Get to Know Each Other: (10-15 min.)

- Introduce yourself and tell the group what you are studying and what year you are in school.
- Name an imaginary college class you wish your school offered and explain why you would want to take it.
- What is something you've been thinking about recently in your relationship with Christ?

Dive Deeper: (30-45 min.)

Read Matthew 22:34-40.

Jesus boils down all of the Law and the Prophets to this: **“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind...”** and **“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”**

If we were to sketch this out graphically, we might end up with a triangle, like the one below. The top point represents what Jesus calls “The great and first commandment”: that we love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind. This represents our vertical relationship (“up”) with God.

The two bottom points represent Jesus’ second commandment: that we love our neighbor as ourselves. Here, “neighbor” has been further broken down into our Christian neighbors within the body of Christ and our non-Christian neighbors who need to hear, see, and receive the Gospel. These represent our horizontal relationships (“in” the Christian community and “out” to the world).

Jesus was concerned that we live faithfully not only in our vertical relationship with God but also in our horizontal relationships with others. Consider Jesus’ commands as you look at this graphic and discuss the following questions with your group:

- Are there any area(s) in which you think you are doing well? Why?
- Are there any area(s) in which you think you need to make an adjustment? Why?
- What might it look like for you, personally, to move deeper into fellowship with Jesus in His command to love God and love your neighbor?

After your discussion, finish by praying together that God would move you and our community into a place of deeper faith and obedience to Him.

