The Hinge Commandment – Pastor Ray Harms-Wiebe – Matthew 22:34-46

NOTE FROM PASTOR JONATHAN

On <u>Wednesday, Mar. 5th</u> at 7:00 PM, we are going to have our Prayer Summit. I think a lot of us can use a little bit of joy in our lives. We are struggling with work, with family, with school, with news, and with a lot of things – we can all use a little more joy in the Lord. Good news! That is the theme of this Prayer Summit coming up: we are going to talk about how we can have joy in worship, joy in understanding God's word, and joy in mission. It'll be a beautiful time for the church to come together, seek God, and pray for His joy in our church and the rest of the world! (The Café is open from 5:00 PM – 6:45 PM)

We have a **Life Group Leader Training** on <u>Saturday, March 29</u>. It's for all *current* and *potential* leaders. Two things will be different this time. We'll have a hot breakfast made by our kitchen team, led by Candy. We'll also have a panel discussion with ILM, new, experienced, and veteran leaders. I'm also chuffed to announce that Pastor Ray will be on the panel! I'm really excited to hear what he has to say.

We'll be discussing topics like how God called them to lead, what experiences shaped them into the leaders they are today, and what they've learned about leading a group. We'll be sending out the registration info. via e-mail- make sure you sign up!

QUESTION OVERVIEW

Please select whichever questions you feel will help your group dig deeper into God's Word.

Let's Warm Up: Questions to break the ice.

- 1. Have you ever cheered for or supported a rival?
- 2. What do you think is the greatest law or rule in Canada?
- 3. Did your family have a cardinal, unbreakable rule?

Let's Get Started: Questions to start thinking about the main themes.

- 4. What's a potential danger in picking and choosing what laws and rules to follow?
- 5. Can someone love God but not neighbor or love neighbor but not God?

Let's Dig In: Questions to discuss the passage and how we can respond.

- 6. Who were the Pharisees?
- 7. How was the lawyer's question a test?
- 8. What happens when we don't love God with <u>all</u> our heart and with <u>all</u> our soul and with <u>all</u> our mind?
- 9. Pastor Ray said, "If you are breaking internally today, know that God, in his infinite love and abundant mercy, is present, putting his hand out to you. Your suffering is not meant to destroy you, but to break you open to Him. Your suffering is an opportunity to turn upward to the living God, Jesus himself." How can God use our suffering to turn us towards Jesus?

Life Group Questions

- 10. How can we tell if we're loving others as ourselves?
- 11. Is loving our neighbor as ourselves easy or hard?
- 12. Where can we find the ability to love others as ourselves?
- 13. Who in your life is unlovable? How can you seek God's help