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What Does the Lord Require?

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29-31

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 John 4:8

"If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing."

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves." Romans 12:9-10

"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law." Romans 13:8

"A friend loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17

"Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law." Romans 13:10

If we claim to follow Jesus, we must be willing to give up what He asks us to give up and pursue what He asks us to pursue. He is our living Lord, and that good news should cause us to rejoice and fully submit to His Lordship. — Dylan LeBeau

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me." Matthew 5:11

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:24

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear ..." Matthew 6:25

"If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire."

Matthew 18:8

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household" Matthew 10:35-36

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

In our society and culture today, which is predicated upon comfort and the avoidance of suffering at all cost, we must raise-up countercultural disciples willing and able to bear their crosses, individuals who will intentionally choose discomfort and suffering for the sake of the kingdom over worldly ideas and changing truths and standards. Dominique Gilliard