



## WEEKLY SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

### **Asking the Right Question**

#### **Matthew 22:34-40**

As we enter into this new year, we can use these two commandments to question our own hearts, as we ask God to guide our desires in a way that can transform us.

### **EXPLORING THE SERMON**

- What did you hear?
- What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

### **VERSES FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION**

*“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law? Jesus replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.” **Matthew 22:36-39***

*Jon pointed out in his sermon that following Jesus is more a matter of desiring and loving than knowing or believing, because human beings were created to love and desire things. As we look at these verses, we can begin to figure out “who we are,” and “what we are doing here,” by answering the questions within this text:*

- *Who or what did you love in 2016? How did that shape and form your year?*
- *Looking back on 2016, how will those experiences and your relationship with Jesus change who and what you will love in 2017?*

*Jon reminds us that the point of Jesus’ response was that if we love anything other than God, ultimately, it will destroy us.*

- *Knowing that God is the only entity worthy of receiving love without destroying us, name the things are you most likely to prioritize that will never bring fulfillment. Whether it be power, money, intellect, or other, think about each of these and discuss ways to prioritize these desires in a way that will bring you transformation and not destruction.*

### **PRAYER FOR THE WEEK**

*Heavenly Father, we are thankful for the fresh start a new year brings. Guide us as we find our way, and help us to form our love for You, our neighbors, and ourselves in a way that won’t destroy us, but will transform us for Your kingdom. Amen.*