

FLYING BLIND

LOVE GOD

Discussion

Are words enough to prove love? How do believers most often express their love for God? Do we have it right?

Encounter - Read God's Word so that He can speak to you - Deuteronomy 5:32-6:9

Explore - His Word asking questions of what you saw.

1)

Deut 5:32-33. Yahweh is why we obey. Why is He the sufficient reason?

- Why is a journey down a road a good picture of obedience?
- What things can distract you from following the road? Have you been distracted?
- What is the destination/goal of this journey? (See also Deut 6:3) What is the goal of our journey?

2)

Deut 6:1-2. What does it mean to fear God?

- Why is fear necessary for obedience? How are obligation and gratitude related to this fear?
- In the next verses (and all through Deuteronomy) the emphasis is on loving God. How are love and fear of God connected?

3) **Deut 6:4.** This declaration is not to answer the question “How many is God?” but “Who is God?” How does this statement answer the question? What is behind this? (See perhaps Deut 4:32-40)

4) **Deut 6:5.** Notice how love must involve your whole being.

- Starting with the heart, what does this involve? Why is this first?
- What is involved with the soul? How do you love God with your soul?
- “Strength” means all of your resources—physical abilities and everything physical you have. How are you to love God with these?

5) **Deut 6:6-9.** Notice another three-fold pattern—this time in reference to spheres of life.

- Our love for God is to be a family matter (v. 7). How can you do this with your children? Every adult is to be a teacher seizing every opportunity for instruction. What does this look like? Are we doing this?
- This love is a public matter. What does that look like? If people don’t know about your faith and relationship to Jesus, are you loving God as you should? How can you correct this?
- Doorposts and gates (v. 9)—this means guests and community should know that Jesus is our Lord. How are we to do this? What do we need to do differently?