

July 13, 2008 – SERMON SUMMARY

Everyone in the world worships. Everyone has something in their life that is more important than anything else. It could be a desire for money, love, power, control, pleasure, or one of many other things. The question is, what or who do they worship?

It works the same for everyone in the world. Whatever is the most important thing in their life will direct how they live and the choices that they make.

Some desire money, control, or image so they will make their career first priority even if it hurts their relationships with God or their family.

Some desire comfort and pleasure so they may put their focus on entertainment, furniture, vacations, food, sex, or other enjoyable things while neglecting self-control, exercise, good spending habits, healthy eating habits, strong relationships, or difficult tasks.

Some desire to be "loved" by others so they do whatever it takes to receive this "love," even if it goes against God's teaching for healthy relationships.

In Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus said "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.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

The key to a strong Christian life is putting God first. All of His wisdom for our lives can be summarized in loving God and loving others. If He is the most important thing in our life, then everything else will be affected for the better. My love for, and trust in God will determine how I relate with my family, my coworkers, my friends, and even strangers. My love for God will determine how I use money, and things. My love for God will even determine how I face success and failure. Only putting God first will bring health and balance to my life.

Worshipping God is more than going to the "worship service" and singing "worship songs" on Sunday. Romans 12:1 shows us that worship is a way of life. My "worship" on Sunday is only meaningful if my life was worshipful during the week. This worship lifestyle will bring Glory to God, will bless my life, and will point others to Jesus Christ.

Today, may we turn to Jesus Christ as the love of our life so that we may experience the blessed life that God intends for us.

Pastor David C. Dixon