

Answers for Such a Time as This

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – June 21, 2020

[Mark 12:30-31](#)

“30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ 31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

God’s Answer is to...

1. LOVE BETTER & FORGIVE BETTER

[Mark 12:](#)

30 Love the Lord your God 31 Love your neighbor as yourself

[Luke 11:4](#)

“Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.”

[Mark 11:25](#)

“And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

God’s Answer is to...

2. DEMONSTRATE INTEGRITY & COMPASSION

[1 Peter 1:15-16](#)

15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

[1 Peter 3:15-16](#)

15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

[Ephesians 4:32](#)

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

God’s Answer is to...

3. SPEAK WORDS OF LIFE & SERVE OTHERS

[Proverbs 18:21](#)

The tongue has the power of life and death...

[Proverbs 15:1](#)

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

[Ephesians 4:29, 31](#)

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs... 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

[James 1:19-20](#)

19 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 for man’s anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

[Matthew 20:26](#)

“... whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant”.

[John 13:14-15](#)

“14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”

[2 Corinthians 5:20](#)

We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.