

No. 1 Remember the Greatest Commandment (Local elder)

Note to speaker:

Kindly emphasize the vital importance and far-reaching effects of loving Jehovah with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength

“YOU MUST LOVE JEHOVAH YOUR GOD” (5 min.)

Jesus clearly identified the greatest commandment [**Read Matthew 22:37, 38**]

We must love Jehovah with our “whole *heart*,” our total inner person

Our “whole *soul*” includes our entire life and how we live

Our “whole *mind*” means the way we think and what we think about

We must also love Jehovah with our “whole *strength*” (Mr 12:30)

Love for God springs from accurate knowledge of him and of his endearing personality

Genuine love for Jehovah includes a personal attachment to him (w96 6/15 3)

Those who love Jehovah would choose his rule even if they could live independent of it (*it-2* 1009 ¶18)

Adam and Eve neglected to cultivate love for Jehovah and his way of ruling (Ge 3:3-6, 12)

Since then, others have failed to maintain their love for God and have lost their relationship with him

(Jg 8:33-35; 2Ch 25:14, 15)

Therefore, we need to *remember the greatest commandment*

HOW TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN AN UNBREAKABLE BOND WITH JEHOVAH (5 min.)

Jehovah gives us many reasons to love him (1Jo 4:19; *it-2* 275 ¶1-2)

The ransom and the Bible are among his many gifts to us (Ps 119:105; Joh 3:16)

Our love for Jehovah is not based solely on what we receive from him (1Co 13:5)

Accurate knowledge of Jehovah and his endearing personality nourishes our love for him

We strengthen our relationship with Jehovah when we pour out our heart to him in prayer and then listen to him by reading his Word (De 13:4; Ps 62:8)

Christian meetings teach us about Jehovah and fortify our love for him (Heb 10:24)

The Bible reveals Jehovah’s qualities in action—we “see” him, and we grow in appreciation for him

The longer we serve Jehovah, the more we experience his care; thus, our love for him grows over time

In order for Jehovah to renew “the man we are inside . . . from day to day,” we should consider spiritual matters each day (2Co 4:16)

JEHOVAH HAS GRAND BLESSINGS IN STORE FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM (4 min.)

Love for Jehovah will be vital for surviving Armageddon and for passing the final test (Re 20:7-9)

Jehovah longs to bring back to life his friends who have died (Job 14:14, 15; Lu 20:37, 38)

Together, Armageddon survivors and resurrected ones will enjoy endless blessings

Even now, Jehovah blesses his friends with spiritual enlightenment and hope

This assembly will help us to understand what it means to love Jehovah and how we can show our love for him

[Use the review questions on the printed program to highlight how the assembly theme will be developed]

Review question: What is the greatest commandment, and why is it important?

Answer: Matthew 22:37, 38; Mark 12:30; loving Jehovah with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength is the greatest commandment; those who love Jehovah will enjoy everlasting friendship with him

May it be our firm resolve to grow in love for Jehovah throughout eternity!

(Speaker does not need to read or comment on every cited text or discuss every subpoint)