

Shema Worship – All Your Mind

**Bumper Video –

Welcome to week 2 of our sermon series Shema Worship.

Quick Review

Worship is central to life You are going to worship something or someone.

Some thing or someone is going to be the focus of your life... They will be the focus of your heart, your mind, and your strength. This is worship.

And we are either going to worship THE CREATOR or some CREATED THING. God is the only UNCREATED THING...

Shema

Jesus declared that Loving God with all your heart, mind, & strength was the greatest commandment.

This command Jesus declared is found in Deuteronomy 6:4 and is known as the Shema. The Hebrew word Shema – Means “Hear”

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.(NIV)

The Shema is the definition of Worship. Any discussion on Worship should begin with the Shema.

1 2 Shema

It declares there is 1 Lord, 1 God. There is 1 object of our worship

It declares that we should LOVE this 1 God with ALL THAT WE ARE.

We talked about what it means to worship God with all your heart and many of you texted in your thoughts.

The Old Testament understanding of the Heart is that it is the CENTER.

The Shema is telling us to Love God from center of our life... the Center of all that is you.

ALL YOUR MIND

Last week many texted in with their thoughts on loving with all your heart. This week we want to know what it looks like to Love God with all your mind. Text in your thoughts.

Let's talk some more about the Shema.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.(NIV)

This is the greatest command according to Jesus. There is more to the Shema than these 2 sentences. These opening sentences underline the topic of love and worship. The sentences that follow show us how to implement this love. Here they are.. This is a little lengthy of a reading... stay engaged...

Deuteronomy 6:6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

Deuteronomy 6:7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deuteronomy 6:8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.(NIV)

Deuteronomy 6:9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.(NIV)

Deuteronomy 6:10 When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you--a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build,(NIV)

Deuteronomy 6:11 houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant--then when you eat and are satisfied,

Deuteronomy 6:12 be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Don't Forget to Remember

It's impossible to love someone you have forgotten. If we are to love God with all our mind we have to remember Him... We should remember what He has done and promised to do.

Hear O Israel... Don't Forget the LORD.

The Truth is that Israel often forget the LORD.

- The Lord attacked their slavemaster with 10 miraculous plagues and set them free. – they forgot.
- They crossed through the red sea and their enemy was destroyed in it – they forgot.
- God led them through the wilderness... everywhere they looked He showed up... Pillar of fire, rolling rock, glory cloud, the manna from heaven... - they forgot.

The Old Testament is a case study on what it looks like to forget the LORD....

But let's be honest... let's talk about us... Don't we forget the LORD also?

When we go through a day and haven't thought about Him... That's forgetting the LORD.

When the only time we actively love him is at a prescribed church service time... That's forgetting the LORD.

When the only time you talk to God is during this altar time... That's forgetting the LORD.

When a small problem arises and you lose all faith, even though God has delivered you from bigger troubles – That's forgetting the LORD.

It's impossible to love someone you have forgotten. If you are going to love the Lord with all your mind you have to remember Him.

God understands that we get distracted by life. For this reason within the Shema he tells us to build reminders into our life.

God knowing our propensity to forget made a part of this command a command to not forget the said command. He told Israel to constantly remind themselves of the Shema. He instructed them to do physical things to remind them of this Spiritual Truth of Loving the one God.

Deuteronomy 6:6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

The heart, remember, is the center of who you are... Let these commands flow from the center of who you are..

Deuteronomy 6:7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Remember the LORD here...

Deuteronomy 6:8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

Remember the LORD here...

Deuteronomy 6:9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.(NIV)

It's impossible to love someone you have forgotten. **Don't forget to remember**

I want to challenge us to do this better. If you go long periods of time without remembering God then we should follow the example of the Shema.

I challenge you to put something somewhere in your home that reminds you of Him. Every morning you see it and you are reminded...

The Hebrews place it on their door frames & gates. They can't leave or enter their house without the reminder.

They also wore reminders. Symbols tied to their hands, foreheads. I challenge you place these reminders around you. Maybe you use these bracelets that say Shema, or place a picture or note that you will see everyday. Let yourself be constantly reminded of the Lord... The Lord you love... the Lord that forgave you, saved you, healed you...

We need some reminders - communion

Routine

Build your love into your routine. This Love for your Lord should be visible in your life... in the choices that you make... no just on Sunday.

Deuteronomy 6:7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Talk about the Shema... This Love for Your Lord with your children.

When you are sitting at home... This Love should be present. Your family, your children should see this love. What would happen if we turned off the TV every now and then and filled the quite with Love for our creator. I challenge us to do this.

Let's build our routine around this love.

“when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up”

When you are driving to and from work... as you are going to bed as you get up... Let that love be present... Love the Lord with all your mind... You are remembering Him.

De-Compartmentalize

ALL your Heart, ALL your Mind, ALL your strength.

This means there isn't a part of you left that needs to offer love... You've given ALL

The Christian culture of today has compartmentalized our faith. There are times and places where we worship with all we are... but then that time passes and we direct our hearts minds and strength elsewhere.

Far too often we act one way at church and another way at home, another way at work or school. That is compartmentalizing your worship.

The greatest command, the shema, tells you to love this 1 Lord with ALL... Redemption it is time we de-compartmentalized our Love.

When we look at the shema we see it show up everywhere in the life of the Hebrew... It's on their doorpost and gate, it's on their hand & forehead, it's in their conversation... It's everywhere!

Redemption Church it's time for our Love to be everywhere.

Is there an area of your life where Shema isn't showing up? Are you truly worshipping Him with ALL.

Psalm 103:1 Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

NOT JUST AT CHURCH... BUT EVERYWHERE

Our memory verse for this month has been John 4:23-26

Here is the context of the scripture... A woman talks to Jesus saying

John 4:20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

John 4:21 Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

John 4:23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.

Jesus lays some radical knowledge down right here. The religious thinking in that day was that the only place to worship God was at the Temple... that was the location and setting of worship...

Wait a second... isn't that the context of Christianity today... Aren't our lives just like that...

Jesus says no! He says the time is here where TRUE WORSHIPPERS worship in Spirit & Truth.

When you worship in Spirit and Truth you can worship anywhere at any time!

The Father is seeking some true worshippers not just here today inside this building... but on your way home... in every part of your life. School and work...

Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,(NIV)

Who do you think you are working for?

You aren't working for a company or a boss... when you are living out Shema worship you are working as unto the Lord.

Christianity has become accustomed to attending worship services... The Shema is a command to never leave the worship service. De-compartmentalized Worship!

Your mind is always going... Even when you sleep your mind is working. It is the center of your thoughts... your perception of the world is defined by your mind. Every decision is made by the mind. To worship the Lord with all your mind is to make the Lord the definition of your world and to make him a part of every decision.

He captures your thoughts...

He is present in your thoughts...

He affects your thoughts... towards love, grace, forgiveness, truth...

- **MUSICIANS**

We will be opening this altars in a short time for some worship and prayer... I have one more point I want you to know.

Worship can seem really strange. There is a story in the bible where a sinful woman bows at the feet of Jesus. She weeps and the tears that flow she uses to wash his feet... and then she takes her hair and dries his feet with her hair. Pretty different right... She's not done...

She takes a container, an alabaster box, that is filled with fragrant perfume... and she pours it on Jesus. The smell of that oil changed the room.

Someone starts an argument that this woman is sinful and she shouldn't be here...

Someone starts an argument that the perfume was expensive... worth a years wage...

There is an amazing picture of worship I want us grasp. See the significance of worship.

Jesus is our High Priest. Sins can't be forgiven without a sacrifice and a high priest to offer it up before the Lord. Jesus is both the sacrifice and the High Priest... Let's focus on the High Priest...

There are a lot of rules for high priests... more than any other position in the bible... I was studying this and 3 jumped out at me I never knew before... I want to share them...

30 Years old to be a member of the Sanhedrin court... The youngest a high priest could be would be 30...

Jesus's ministry started when he was... 30 years old

A priest had to be baptized... Jesus told John the Baptist that he had to be baptized to fulfill all righteousness...

And 3rd... A High Priest had to be anointed with oil...

I searched throughout the New Testament for a place where Jesus was ceremonially anointed with oil. There is that time where the Holy Spirit descended on him like a dove... but I don't know if that's the same... Where is there a place where someone actually takes oil and anoints Jesus...?

It's in this story... It's at the hands of the sinful woman... it's in an act of Worship & Love that he is anointed High Priest...

When we look deeper... The oil she used... that expensive oil... couldn't she have used a cheaper oil...? It was the exact kind of oil, called spikenard, that is used to anoint High Priest according to Exodus 30:22...

She couldn't have possibly known fully what she was doing... but her act of Love... that worship that came from Shema... from all her heart, mind, soul, & strength... was salvational...

Jesus looks at her and says – Your sins are forgiven... Your faith has saved you, go in peace...

Do you understand that your worship anoints...?

If you need healing today I want you to come down here to this altar and anoint him as your healer

If you need peace today... anoint him as prince of peace with your worship

Someone needs to cry some tears at the feet of the savior today and anoint him as Messiah

Come to this altar and love the Lord with All...