Answering Correctly.

Right before the lectionary reading from Mark we find Pharisees and supporters of Herod trying to trap Jesus. They have been asking him questions then this reading from.

Mark 12:28-34

**28**One of the legal experts heard their dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?”

**29**Jesus replied, “The most important one is *Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord,* **30***and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+12&version=CEB#fen-CEB-24696d)]**31**The second is this, *You will love your neighbor as yourself*.[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+12&version=CEB#fen-CEB-24697e)] No other commandment is greater than these.”

**32**The legal expert said to him, “Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him. **33**And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one’s strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices.”

**34**When Jesus saw that he had answered with wisdom, he said to him, “You aren’t far from God’s kingdom.” After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions

The Word of God for the People of God, Thanks be to God.

I have what could be an embarrassing trait depending on who is around me. I like to talk, and when people ask how I am doing I I respond and then ask how they are, but I sometimes ask how they are in a way where I

[Wesley's Notes](http://www.ccel.org/ccel/wesley/notes.i.iii.xiii.html).

* "*Which is the first commandment?* - The principal, and most necessary to be observed."

David Ewart, 2009.

* "Who knew that at the peak of confrontation between Jesus and the religious elites of Jerusalem, it would be one of them who would embody Jesus' proclamation of God's Good News?

 I believe that the great obstacle to love of others lies in the fact that we have been taught not to be at home with ourselves."

* "Our sainthood isn't about what we do or try to do. It's about the God -- the one holy God -- who touches our lives."

# Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Common English Bible (CEB)

4Israel, listen! Our God is the Lord! Only the Lord![[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Deuteronomy+6:4-9#fen-CEB-5091a)]

5Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. 6These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds.

Leviticus 19:18 You must not take revenge nor hold a grudge against any of your people; instead, you must love your neighbor as yourself; I am the Lord.