

## THE GREATEST COMMAND

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

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1. The book of Deuteronomy was not spoken directly to us as it was to this generation of Israel, but it was still written down for our benefit.
2. 6:4 Israel was to be devoted solely to the LORD (Deuteronomy 4:39).
3. 6:5 We do not have to hedge our bets with God; we can commit everything to Him.
4. 6:5 The Hebrew word *'āhab* ("love") is used in Deuteronomy very specifically to refer to a covenant commitment which is based in action and is meant to seek out the well-being and pleasure of God.
5. 6:5 This love is in response to what God has already done.
6. 6:5 The Hebrew word *lēb* ("heart") refers to the inner man or woman. It can be used to describe the seat of emotions, the seat of reason, or both. You must use your "feeler" and your "thinker" to love the Lord your God.
7. 6:5 The Hebrew word *nepeš* ("soul") could mean physically "breath, throat, or gullet," but it also has a metaphorical sense from which we derive a person as a living being. In this context, it is used as our "whole person."
8. 6:5 The Hebrew word *mē'ôd* ("might") carries the weight of abundance. When combined with heart and soul, it becomes an extension of all that we have.
9. 6:5 Jesus reaffirmed this command for his followers as the first and foremost command (Mark 12:28-32).
10. 6:6 You cannot hope to love God with EVERYTHING if you are not thinking of Him, if you are not taking the time and effort to know Him, if you are not putting His commands on your heart.

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## SONG TITLES

"Are You Washed in the Blood" words and music by Elisha Albright Hoffman

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"I'll Fly Away" words and music by Albert E. Brumley

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Arranged by Alan Jackson

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" words and music by John Newton and Michael Glenn

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"Is He Worthy" words and music by Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive

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- Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and might.  
Meditate on the Word in your heart.  
Let it soak into your thoughts and feelings.  
Teach them to your children and talk about them always.  
Build reminders into your life to draw you back to it.

## QUOTES

"The parent is not someone who is to be looked at, but someone who is to be looked through. Even a parent is better looked through than looked at. The parent who simply teaches Bible stories does little compared to the parent who lives as if God's Word is true; this is the parent who disappears into the truth he loves, this is the parent who points beyond himself, the parent who says, "Look at that!" and points directly to Jesus Christ." ~Tim Challies

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