

# Nurturing Connections

May 2, 2021

## 1. Connection Directions: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." <sup>38</sup> This is the first and most important command.*

*<sup>39</sup> And the second command is like the first: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' <sup>40</sup> All the law and the writings of the prophets depend on these two commands."*

Matthew 22:37-40 (NCV)

## 2. God \_\_\_\_\_.

*"...I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself."*

Jeremiah 31:3b (NLT)

*"We love Him because He first loved us."*

1 John 4:19 (NKJV)

## 3. The Call to \_\_\_\_\_ God's Love.

*"Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.*

*<sup>8</sup> But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. <sup>10</sup> This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us."*

1 John 4:7-12 (NLT)

## 4. A \_\_\_\_\_ of Love.

*"Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.*

*<sup>11</sup> Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. <sup>13</sup> When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. <sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. <sup>15</sup> Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!"*

Romans 12:9-16 (NLT)