



Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati  
405 West Seventh Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45203  
(513) 381-3858  
[www.union-baptist.net](http://www.union-baptist.net)  
Rev. Dr. Orlando Yates, Pastor

## THE COMMAND TO LOVE

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.” (Deuteronomy 6:5)

**Jesus Christ called this the first and greatest commandment (see Mark 12:30). Today’s verse along with Matthew 22:36-38 talks about three basic loves-love of God, love of neighbor, and love of self.** What difference we would make in the world if we able to love in these ways! Clearly, the commandment to love is important to God. But as we try to remain constantly aware of God’s command, how do we live out these loves? In Ephesians 5:19-21 we get a small glimpse on how to love this way. **If we -**

- **Love ourselves we will speak and sing words of joy. We will make music in our hearts for the Lord.**
- **Love God we will always give thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Positive words will flow from our lips unto God.**
- **Love neighbors we will be subject one to another in fear of Christ. We will be willing to allow another person’s needs to take precedence over our own. This submission is to be based on our reverence for God. We can’t do it on our human power.**

**These are great actions for our Christian growth, but we must start by loving good with all our hearts, souls, strength, and minds-then we can move out to share with others. AMEN.**

~ Bob Barnes

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

