

GOSPEL PEARLS

The right way

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And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbour as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions (Mark 12: 28b-34)

Only if we do not give in to our own self-centredness and place God at the centre of our hearts, may we live in peace and serenity. To do this, we need the Holy Spirit's indispensable help. Jesus reminds us all that the most important commandment is to love God with all our might so that we may be shown the right way to live on earth. Let us strive to obey this commandment so that will we be able to understand our own limitations and forgive the weaknesses of others. We must do so in order to love them correctly and without human calculations, as God wishes, and love our neighbour as we love ourselves.