

# The Greatest Commandment

## Large Group by the Catechist (Mary Kay)

**Scripture: Matthew 22: 34-40**

During the time of Jesus, there were many rules and laws that people had to follow in order to practice their religion. There were rules about different foods you could eat, how much money you had to give, what you had to wear, and more... Today, the Pharisees will again try to trick Jesus by asking Him which rule was the most important. Let's find out what Jesus had to say.

The story goes like this:

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question Him again. One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question. "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the Law of Moses?"

Jesus replied, "You must love **(Cross hands over chest)** the Lord your God **(Put up one finger)** with all your heart **(make a heart with your fingers)**, all your soul **(open arms)**, all your mind." **(point to mind.)**

This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: "Love your neighbor as yourself." **(Give your neighbor a high five.)** The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.

(Return into small groups for question time.)