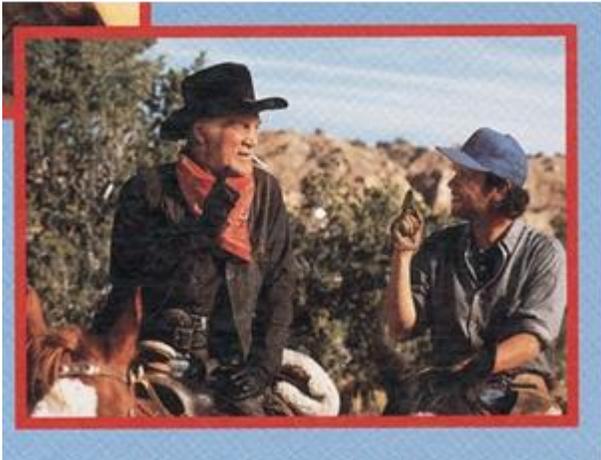


Mountain Views

January 2017



JUST ONE THING



In the iconic movie, "City Slickers", the harden old cowboy Curly shares with Mitch the secret to success in life, "It's just one thing." Of course Mitch does not know what the "one thing" is, but in the course of the movie he discovers it.

Thankfully, the Lord Jesus in Mark 12:28-31 has already told us the "one thing" that will make us a success in our Christian walk. When a scribe asked, "Which command is the most important of all?", he was asking the same question Mitch was. What is the one thing that will give me success and happiness? To this question the Lord Jesus replied in Mark 12:29-31:

"The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. ³⁰ And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. ³¹ And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (NKJV)

Here the Lord Jesus tells us, the one thing, the most important commandment is to love God with all your being and your neighbor as yourself. (In the Jan 1st message we developed this text and its application in great detail, so please listen to it if you were not with us this past Sunday). This is Jesus' "one thing" because if you

love God with all your being, and your neighbor as yourself, your relationship with God and others will be right and real. When you fully love God, you obey Him (John 14:21). When you love others as yourself, you will not sin against them (Romans 13:9-10). An empowered Christian life that honors God and serves others comes from a life of love. That is why the theme for Mountain View Bible Church in 2017 is this "ONE THING."

Everything we do this year is designed to help us love God with our entire person and others as ourselves:

- **Messages and Lessons in Genesis** will help you to know God, be in awe of Him. Yet, you will see that the infinite creator is about a relationship with you, His creation.
- **Exchanged Life Conference** – On Friday, March 17th and Saturday, March 18th Dr. John Woodward will conduct an Exchanged Life Conference. Here you will learn how Jesus' life is really live in and through you. It was these principles that literally saved my life and ministry in 2004 when hurt so bad by a church, I asked God to kill me. Please mark your calendar, take out your phone, and plan to attend the Friday night and Saturday conference. Dr. John is an expert in this area and you will not want to miss this opportunity.
- **Messages in First John** - After Easter we will move to a study of First John. The apostle John was known as the apostle of love. And from his book you will learn to receive God's love in Christ so that you can radiate that love to others (I John 4:19).

There are just a few of the ministries planned to help us all fully live out Jesus' "ONE THING" at our church this coming year. Let's make Jesus' "ONE THING" our one thing. Commit to cultivating a love relationship with God, and get ready for God's presence to fill your life and relationships in a new and deeper way. You see God's "ONE THING" leads to everything else.

In His Love,

Pastor Jeff