

**B49 Skit**  
**Love God above All and Love Your Neighbor as Yourself**

**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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**Today's Gospel by Mark 12:28-34**

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/mark/mark12.htm#v28>

**Compare with Matthew 22:34-40**

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/matthew/matthew22.htm#v34>

**Compare with Luke 10:25-28**

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/luke/luke10.htm#v25>

I did not find a reference to John regarding the Greatest Commandments.

**Characters:**

Narrator

Jesus

Scribe

Pharisee

Sadducee

Jake

Tameka

Tim

Mandy (walks with crutches)

Chad

Scribe

Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life? I am a scholar of the laws. Which is the most important of all the commandments?

Jesus

Hear me, O people of Israel, the most important commandment is: Love the Lord, your God with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all of your mind, and with all of your strength.

Pharisee

What is the second most important commandment?

Jesus

The second most important commandment is: Love your neighbor as yourself.

Sadducee

Are there more important commandments than these?

Jesus

There are no greater, more important commandments than these.

Scribe

When I love God with all my heart, with all my understanding, with all my strength, and I love my neighbor as myself that is worth more to him than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices in the world.

Jesus

You have answered correctly. You are close to the kingdom of God. When you follow these two commandments, you will live forever.

Narrator

At St. John Neumann Catholic Church there were a few teenagers discussing today's Gospel.

Tameka

Where were you last Sunday, Jake?

Jake

I had a soccer tournament in Wilmington.

Tameka

Did you have time to go to church there?

Jake

Yeah. I'd have gone to church even if I missed the tournament. I told Dad, I've got to go to church. I looked in the phone book for the closest church. I called and found out the Mass times. We went right before the tournament began.

Tim

God is more important to you than the soccer tournament. You were following the first commandment.

Mandy

(Walks with crutches)

I don't have much trouble following the first commandment. It's the second one that does me in.

Tameka

What do you mean, Mandy?

Mandy

I have trouble loving my neighbor, Chad, as myself. He is a real brat.

Jake

Tell us about it.

Mandy

He sits on his porch every morning and makes fun of me and my crutches. He says, "Man, a snail could get to the bus stop faster than you."

Tim

That's pretty rotten. What do you usually do?

Mandy

I usually pout, get red in the face, and keep right on walking.

Tameka

It's hard for you to love him as you do yourself. Huh?

Tim

We'll pray for your neighbor beginning right now. God can make things better for you.

Mandy

It's worth a try. Feeling sorry for myself isn't helping me any.

Tameka

You are not showing love for yourself.

Mandy

You are right. I hate having to use crutches. I'll pray for myself and for Chad.

Jake, Tim and Tameka

We'll pray for both of you, too. God will help.

Narrator

The next morning, after praying off and on during the day, during the night, Mandy is walking with her crutches in front of her neighbor's house near the bus stop.

Chad

(Gets off the porch and comes over and looks Mandy right in the eye.)  
A snail could get to the bus stop faster than you.

Mandy

I left the snails flying in the wind. Do you want to race?

Chad

Sure. Ready, Set, Go...Chad took off running.

Mandy

No. Get the extra pair of crutches off my porch. We'll race fair and square.

(When they take off racing, Chad has trouble walking with the crutches. Mandy wins.)

Chad

Walking with crutches is not as easy as it looks. I'm sorry I made fun of you.

Mandy

It's okay.

Chad

I'll put these crutches up. Then I'll walk with you to the bus stop.

Mandy

Now that would be real neighborly of you.

Narrator

Love God above all things. Love your neighbor as yourself. When you have trouble obeying these commandments, pray and ask God for help. He will make it better for you, too.