

# BREAKING OPEN THE WORD



**October 25, 2020**

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Lectionary: 148**

**Gospel MT 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, ""Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"" He said to him, ""You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.""

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**Spiritual Reflection:** The following quote from the Spiritual Writer and monk Thomas Merton connects last week's Gospel with this week's Gospel in a pretty amazing way: "To say that I am made in the image of God is to say that love is the reason for my existence, for God is love. Love is my true identity. Selflessness is my true self. Love is my true character. Love is my name."

**Spiritual Questions:**

1. How does being made in the image of God relate to the need to love and be love?
2. How does selfishness prevent you from being your true self?
3. How does selflessness help you be your true self?
4. Do you believe your true identity is love? Why or why not?
5. Connect the dots from being an image of God and the need to love.