

## Worship Engagement and Devotion for week of November 14, 2021

READ [Jonah 1:1-3, Matthew 22:34-40](#)

### Monuments of Service



Veterans Day is a time to honor and give thanks for our Veterans. This Sunday, November 14th, we celebrate our Veterans during our worship services. We are eternally grateful to all those men and women who have fought and served for our county, and those that are currently serving.

#### The Great Commandment

*"When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. One of them, a legal expert, tested him. "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?"*

*He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands." - Matthew 22:34-30 (CEB)*

### Questions for Reflection:

- What do you suppose Jonah was thinking as he fled to Tarshish?
- What is something that you think God may be asking you to do now?
- What have you found most often keeps you from doing something you believe God wants you to do?
- Reread the Matthew passage. Why do you think Jesus emphasized loving God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength, all our being?
- How is loving God related to loving people?
- In what way do you want to grow in love right now? Toward God? Toward those in your family? Toward those in need? Toward yourself?

### Spiritual Practice – Five Finger Prayer

Watch the *Five Finger Prayer Spiritual Practices 101* video – [Here!](#)



This prayer practice uses each finger as something to pray for.

The thumb is for those closest to us (family, friends, etc).

\*The index finger for those who teach, instruct and heal us (pastors, teachers, doctors, etc).

\*The middle finger, our tallest, is for our leaders (leaders of our community, church, nation, those serving in our military, Veterans, etc).

\*The ring finger, our weakest, for those who are weak (those who are sick or hurting, etc).

\*The pinky is for ourselves.

### Spiritual Practice: Intercessory Prayer

Intercessory Prayer is praying to God on behalf of others. In his book, *Prayer*, Richard Foster describes Intercession as a way of loving others. Intercessory prayer helps us to think about others through the lens of God's desire to transform them into Christlikeness. Adele Ahlberg Calhoun writes in her book, *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook*, "Intercessory Prayer invites us into God's care and concern for us, our families and friends, and the entire world." Intercession is not a means to impose our will and desires for a person, but rather a way to become more aware of God's desires. Intercessory Prayer is a way of partnering with God in his concerns for the world, as we support others in need of healing, care, and support. Read John 17 and Exodus 17:8-13 for Biblical examples of Intercessory Prayer.

Practice praying intercessory prayers for Veterans, those serving our Veterans, those serving in our military, and others who make a difference in your life, our community, and the world.

*We always thank  
God for all of you  
and continually  
mention you in  
our prayers.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2, NIV