Matthew 22:57 NIV
**Jesus replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."**

* Pray.
* Read verse silently.
* Read verse aloud together.
* Have volunteers look up similar verses. Deuteronomy 6:5, Mark 12:30 & Luke 10:27 \*Note that Matthew 22:57 is from a red letter Bible. Explain that some Bibles make it easy for us to see that Jesus is talking by putting his words in red print.
* Deep Questions to ponder:
	+ How do you love God with your
		- Heart?
		- Soul?
		- Mind?
		- Strength?
* More Deep Questions to ponder:
	+ Did you notice that little word, **all**?
	+ What difference does it make?
	+ If you fail to love God with your all, should you give up?
		- * (be sure in addition to great responses from students, that you **emphasize that it’s through the help of the Holy Spirit, through God’s strength and not our own. Confess and ask the Lord to help you love Him.)**
* Pre-print table, hand out notecards, or make a poster for the class to make lists of how they are/will start loving God:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Loving God w/ all my: | Heart | Soul | Mind | Strength |
| Currently: |  |  |  |  |
| I will start: |  |  |  |  |

* Play games to memorize scripture. There are at least 3 catchy songs that match this verse on YouTube. Our favorite is the Lincoln Brewster lyric video. 😊
* Write out or decorate pre-printed verse to take home.
	+ While the students are drawing, share how you or people you respect pursue loving God with their heart, soul, mind, & strength.
* Pray the scripture.

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| **Loving God w/ all my:** | **Heart** | **Soul** | **Mind** | **Strength** |
| Currently: |  |  |  |  |
| I will start: |  |  |  |  |