

Deeply Rooted Week 12: Closer to the Kingdom

Scripture: [Mark 12:28-34](#)

Video Lesson:

<https://vimeo.com/642901362>

Our Prayer:

Holy God, I pray that each day I may love you with all my heart, mind and strength, and my neighbors as myself.
Every day, without exception. Amen.

Memorable Quotes:

[The] Kingdom of God is organic rather than organizational. Sowers sow. Seeds grow naturally, automatically, and invisibly. From such seeds, a great tree grows....as the seeds of faith ripen in countless lives into the fruit of the Spirit, and the people of God grow, ripen, and bear more fruit in ways that defy all expectations. — Os Guinness, *Renaissance*

I can no longer condemn or hate a brother for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble he causes me.

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*

Questions for Reflection:

- What from these verses resonates with you?
- When Jesus tells the teacher that he is not far from the Kingdom of God, what do you think he meant?
- Over the course of Deeply Rooted, what's one thing you've learned about yourself?
- What's one thing you've learned about God? What do you believe is the next step in your faith journey?

Practices to Adopt:

- Read the entirety of the chapter from Mark 12.
- Pray this week's prayer (above).
- Reflect on the months of Deeply Rooted: how have we learned and grown in our love of God and love of neighbor?
- "Go and do likewise" : act as someone's loving neighbor today.

Resources to Go Deeper:

Bible Project, "[Love \(Ahavah\)](#)" and "[Love \(Agape\)](#)"

Jesus through Middle Eastern Eyes, Ch. 22: Parable of the Good Samaritan, by Kenneth Bailey

Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Faith in Community, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Jesus Creed: Loving God. Loving Others, by Scot McKnight

Reckless Love: Jesus' Call to Love Our Neighbor, by Tom Berlin