

SHEMA DISCIPLESHIP

Unlocking **True Worship**, **True Spirituality**,
and **True Discipleship**

Shema Spirituality

- Mark 12:28–34 (CJB)
- ²⁸ One of the *Torah*-teachers came up and heard them engaged in this discussion. Seeing that Yeshua answered them well, he asked him, “Which is the most important *mitzvah* of them all?” ²⁹ Yeshua answered, “The most important is, ‘***Sh’ma Yisra’el, ADONAI Eloheinu, ADONAI echad*** [Hear, O Isra’el, the LORD our God, the LORD is one], ³⁰ and you are to love ***ADONAI*** your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your understanding and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this: ‘**You are to love your neighbor as yourself.**’ There is no other *mitzvah* greater than these.” ³² The *Torah*-teacher said to him, “Well said, Rabbi; you speak the truth when you say that he is one, and that there is no other besides him; ³³ and that loving him with all one’s heart, understanding and strength, and loving one’s neighbor as oneself, mean more than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴ When Yeshua saw that he responded sensibly, he said to him, “You are not far from the Kingdom of God.” And after that, no one dared put to him another *sh’eilah*.

Shema Spirituality

- “The man in the Israelite world who has faith is not distinguished from the ‘heathen’ by a mere spiritual view of the Godhead, but [rather] by the exclusiveness of his relationship to God, and by his reference of all things to him.” - Maurice Friedman

Shema Spirituality

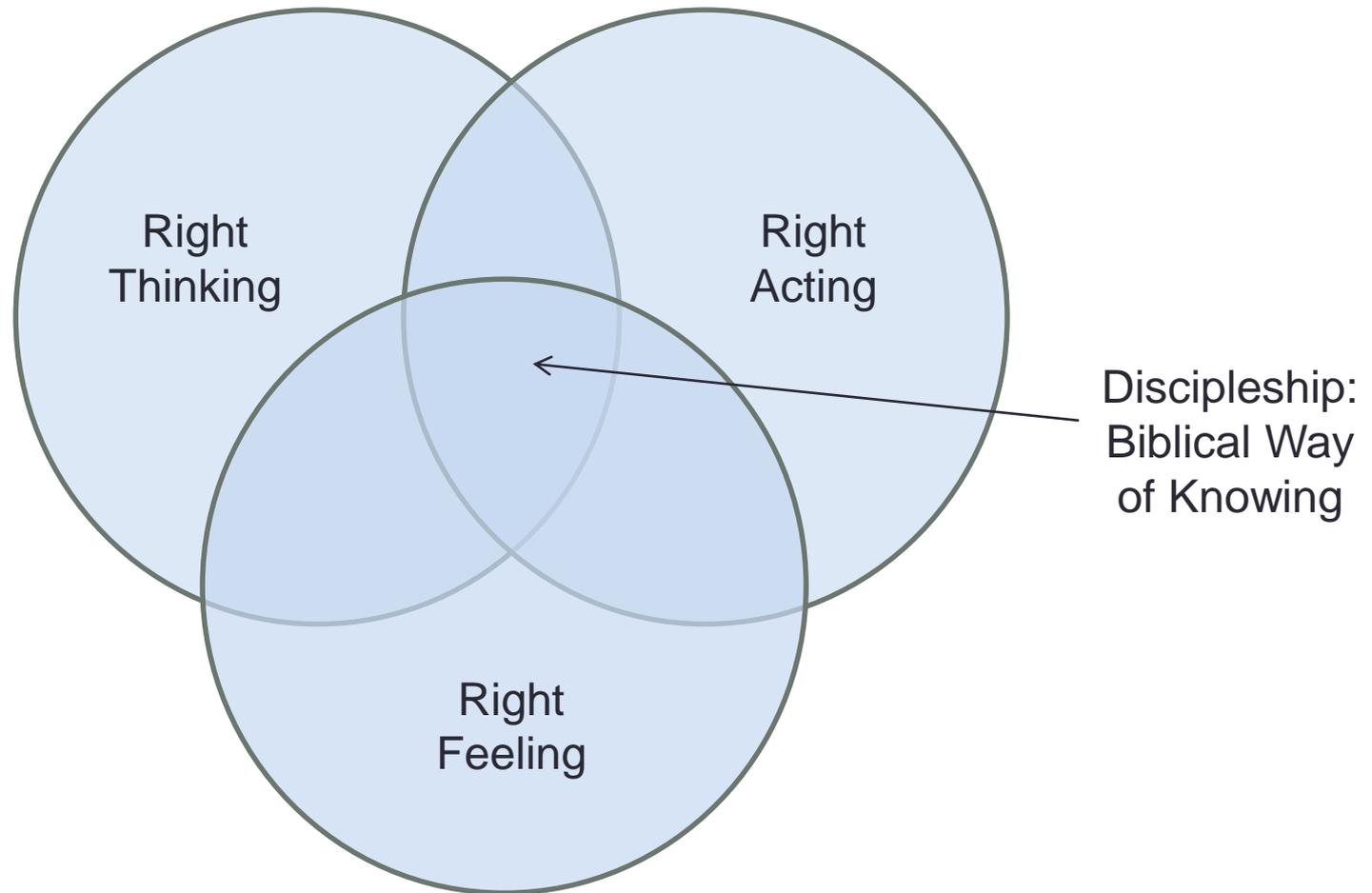
The *Shema* is the key that unlocks...

- **true worship,**
- **true spirituality,**
- **true discipleship.**

The Ten Commandments

- Commandments 1-4 - God relationship (loving God)
- Commandments 5-10 - People relationship (loving others)

Shema Discipleship



Integrity

- תַּמְמָה **tummah**

תָּמַם *tāmam*

1. the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.

2. *the state of being whole and undivided.*

- *“In the world to come, I shall not be asked “Why were you not Moses?”. I shall be asked “Why were you not Zusha?”*

- Proverbs 11:3 (ESV)
- ³ The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

Becoming Mature Disciples

- So, the Shema teaches us that to become mature disciples we need to engage in knowing and loving God on all three levels; our minds, our hearts and our actions.

Putting First Things First

- CS Lewis said, “Aim at Heaven and you will get earth ‘thrown in,’ aim at earth and you will get neither.”

Shema Spirituality

- James 1:22–25 (CJB)
- ²² Don't deceive yourselves by only hearing what the Word says, but do it! ²³ For whoever hears the Word but doesn't do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror, ²⁴ who looks at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But if a person looks closely into the perfect *Torah*, which gives freedom, and continues, becoming not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work it requires, then he will be blessed in what he does.

Revelation involves responsibility

- Revelation involves responsibility, for there is no revelation without commandment. Even when revelation appears to be concerned with God, it is really God talking about us.
- What divine revelation says of God does not refer to God's being but supplies the reasons for God's demands on us. Our own life is the sphere in which we point God out, our life as it is lived before the face of God.
- ~Martin Buber

Revelation involves responsibility

- This demand is ultimately the demand to sanctify all things: "not their glorification or conquest, but their sanctification, and consequently their transformation." The world is not so much a reality to be overcome as a reality to be hallowed.
- We are always the ones responsible for this hallowing, and we accomplish it by living each day to the full, by entering into each day with all the active fullness of the whole person. ...
- ~Martin Buber

Shema Spirituality

- *“... The most important is, ‘Sh’ma Yisra’el, ADONAI Eloheinu, ADONAI echad [Hear, O Isra’el, the LORD our God, the LORD is one], and you are to love ADONAI your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your understanding and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You are to love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other mitzvah greater than these.”* (Mark 12:29–31, CJB)