

MICHAEL MISTRETTA

CEO of FIRM; Entrepreneur and Innovator

Michael Mistretta is the CEO of FIRM: Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries. Born in Toronto, Canada, Michael was raised in the church and later received a call to Israel where he met Pastor Wayne Hilsden and helped to start FIRM. From starting his own company as a teenager to his 10 years of ministry experience, Michael is an entrepreneur and innovator who is passionate about seeing ministries in Israel thrive as people come to know Yeshua (Jesus) as Messiah.

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“The way we love others is the visible evidence, the expression of the invisible truth of our love for God. Our vertical love of God must be expressed horizontally.”

REACT

Your relationship with God is incredibly personal, but there is a public aspect to it as well. The proof, or outward reflection of it, is displayed in your relationship with others. The disciple John even goes so far as to connect a lack of love for your neighbor to a lack of love for God.

“If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God’s love be in that person?” —1 John 3:17

REFLECT

“Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me.”—Mark 9:37

Think about how your life reflects your love for God. If someone followed you throughout your day, would the way you treat others leave them convinced of your love for God?

In Luke 10, Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan. When a Jew was attacked and left for dead, both a priest and a Levite passed him by without helping. Instead, a Samaritan, a religious and ethnic enemy of the Jews, stopped to rescue him.

Then Jesus asked, *“Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?”* —Luke 10:36

The answer was not the two religious men. It was the one who was willing to help despite his differences.





THINK ABOUT HOW YOU LIVE YOUR LIFE. DO YOUR WORDS AND ACTIONS CAUSE PEOPLE TO WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT GOD?

RESPOND

Jesus turns our attention first to God's holiness and encourages us to hunger for his kingdom. It is often easy to love those who look, think, or act like us, but it is challenging to bridge what divides us. Are you prepared to take it a step further and recognize that God is inviting you to serve him by loving those who are actively working against you?

How is God calling you to expand your perspective on those outside your circle of comfort? What does he invite you to discover about him as you reach out to those he created?

The pace of our lives is another obstacle to our love. Are you too busy to even notice your neighbor, let alone love him?

It can be challenging, inconvenient, and messy to allow God to disrupt our plans.

REVIEW

- We are called to display radical love to the world so that they may come to know him.
- To love others, we must expand our perspective and make space in our schedules for others.
- When we love others, not only does it reflect and express our love for God, it is also a tangible way for us to serve him.

MEMORIZE

"I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHEN YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, YOU WERE DOING IT TO ME!"
—MATTHEW 25:40

ACTION STEPS

- Identify three people outside your circle. Record how you will get to know them better this week.
- Review your daily schedule and add in time and space to love a stranger, immigrant, or outcast.
- Ask God to reveal new and creative ways you can serve him by serving others..