Reflection Questions:
The Altogether Christian

Suitable for sermon preparation, small group discussion, or personal devotion.

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." – Mark 12:28-31

WITH ALL YOUR MIND

(Understanding, attention, reason, imagination)

- Jesus added "mind" when speaking to a Greek audience. How might loving God with the mind challenge anti-intellectual faith?
- If the mind is constantly formed by media and culture, what practices help direct attention toward God's truth and wisdom?
- What would it be like to trust God with our deepest questions and doubts, to wrestle with them together with God and others?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Wesley asked listeners to examine whether they were almost or altogether Christians. Where is God inviting deeper transformation rather than surface improvement?
- Where is the Holy Spirit inviting movement from almost to altogether love?
- What would it mean for our congregation to become an all-together community, loving God and neighbor with all we are and have?
- If the word "all" disappeared from the Great Commandment, how would discipleship shrink? What does including it change?