

Change Track 201 | Love, Truth, & Grace

Welcome! You're on track to experience life change for a lifetime.

Mark 12:30-31 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.'

1. It is possible to be a good person and live a bad **LIFE**.
2. I can't be Christ-like if I don't know what Christ is **LIKE**.
3. There are three values that Jesus used to manage relationships:
 - I. **LOVE**
 - II. **TRUTH**
 - III. **GRACE**
4. One of the dominant character traits in Jesus is **LOVE**. This is the virtue and the value that Christ said should be most dominant in those who follow him.

John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

5. **Agape** is a Greek word which means an unselfish, unconditional, and unconquerable benevolence. This is what it means to love like Jesus.
6. Agape is a decision to seek the highest **GOOD** for others, whether they reciprocate it or not. This is a love that corrects but doesn't condemn.

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

7. **Truth** was also a virtue that Jesus prioritized in his own life and ministry.

John 1:14 *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 14:6 *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

John 8:31-32 *To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

8. What is truth? First of all, divine truth is not synonymous with human **OPINION**. Truth protects us from the masquerade of pretention.

John 17:17 *Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.*

9. The first person Jesus had to be truthful with is **HIMSELF**. Secondly, he was truthful to God. Finally, Jesus was truthful with others. In the same way we must be truthful to ourselves, truthful with our Heavenly Father, and truthful with others.

10. Finally, Jesus managed relationships with **GRACE**.

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11. When we show grace to others that means we show **COMPASSION** for people without condoning the activity.

12. We must also communicate without **COMPROMISE**. It's hard to assist people without engaging people.

13. We must finally challenge others to be better without **CONDEMNING** them.

14. Grace doesn't **LOWER** God's standard. Grace is a better motivator for people reaching it.

