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you can't have the fruits without the roots.

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## Texas Version:

If you want to be fruited... you need to be rooted.

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# Rooted in Relationships

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AT GRACE WE WILL BE **KNOWN**  
BY HOW WE TREAT EACH OTHER

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# WE ARE GRACE...

- Relationships are important.
- As the church, we are called, compelled and commanded to live together in unity.
- "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." – **John 13:35**

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# Jesus Prayed about it

## John 17:20-23a

<sup>20</sup> “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,

<sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

<sup>22-23a</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity.

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# Harmony and Unity do Not Mean Sameness

- “You don't get harmony when everyone sings the same note.” – **Doug Floyd**
- In essentials UNITY; in non-essentials DIVERSITY; in all things LOVE!

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# One-Another Commands

- Do not judge **one another**, and don't put a stumbling block in a brother's way (Romans 14:13)
- Bear **one another's** burdens (Galatians 6:2)
- Speak truth to **one another** (Ephesians 4:25)
- Greet **one another** with a kiss (Romans 16:16, 1 Corinthians 16:20)

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# LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Comprises 1/3 of the "One Another Commands"

- Through love, serve **one another** (Galatians 5:13)
- Be devoted to **one another** in love (Romans 12:10)
- Tolerate **one another** in love (Ephesians 4:2)

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# UNITY IN THE CHURCH

Another 1/3 of "One Another Commands"

- Be at peace with **one another** (Mark 9:50)
- Be of the same mind with **one another** (Romans 12:16, 15:5)
- Accept **one another** (Romans 15:7)
- Don't bite, devour, and consume **one another** (Galatians 5:15)
- Be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving to **one another** (Ephesians 4:32)

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# 5 RELATIONSHIP PRINCIPLES

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# #1 - The Faithfulness Principle

- “If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.” - **I Corinthians 13:7**
- **Our Friendship > Offense**

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## #2 - The Final Word Principle

- “Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him, who is the Head, that is Christ.” - **Ephesians 4:15**
- **False Friends believe rumors. True friends believe each other.**

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# #3 - The Friendship Principle

- "A truthful witness saves lives, but a false witness is deceitful." - **Proverbs 14:25**
- **No one can see you clearly if you keep wearing your mask.**

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## #4 - The Four Day Principle

- “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.” - **Matthew 5:23-24**
- **It's you and me verses the problem, not you vs. me.**

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# #5 - The First Word Principle

- “ If your brother sins against you, go and show him first his fault, just between the two of you.” - **Matthew 18:15**
- **If you have to talk to more than 2 people about the same problem, you don't want a solution... you want an audience.**

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## **Alfred A. Montapert,** *Christian Speaker, early 1900's*

"In Texas, years ago, almost all of the oil came from surface operations. Then someone got the idea that there were greater sources of supply deeper down. A well was drilled five thousand feet deep. The result? A gusher.

Too many of us operate on the surface. We never go deep enough to find supernatural resources. The result is, we never operate at our best. More time and investment is involved to go deep but a gusher will pay off."

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