

LIFE PRINCIPLE

**Methods are many, principles are few.
Methods change, principles never do.**

Principles are UNIVERSAL.

Principles are UNIVERSAL.
Principles are TIMELESS.

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are **“undivided in divided persons.”**

Council of Constantinople, 381 A.D.

**Try to explain the Trinity and you will lose your mind.
Deny the Trinity and you will lose your faith.**

For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.

2 Peter 1:17-18

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.

Matthew 3:13-17

¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;
¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, “**This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.**”

Matthew 3:13-17

JOHN TRENT, PH.D.
GARY SMALLEY

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The
BLESSING

GIVING THE GIFT of UNCONDITIONAL
LOVE AND ACCEPTANCE



Three blessings every person needs

1) Offer meaningful touches

“...like a dove coming to rest on him...”

And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him...

Matthew 3:16

And the Spirit of the LORD shall **rest upon him**,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Isaiah 11:2

FACT

Men and women need 8-10 meaningful
touches each day!
–UCLA Study

FACT

Giving premature babies 45 minutes of massage each day resulted in **47% weight gain** over those children who were not regularly touched. **Bone growth doubled** that of those with inadequate physical attention.

–University of Miami Study

- Isaac blessed Jacob with an embrace and a kiss.

Then his father Isaac said to him, “Come near and kiss me, my son.” So he came near and kissed him.

Genesis 27:26-27

- Isaac blessed Jacob with an embrace and a kiss.
- Jesus knew he had been touched by sick woman (Mark 5:28-30).

- Isaac blessed Jacob with an embrace and a kiss.
- Jesus knew he had been touched by sick woman.
- Jesus drew the children to him to be with him.

Now they were bringing even infants to him **that he might touch them**. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.”

Luke 18:15-16

- Isaac blessed Jacob with an embrace and a kiss.
- Jesus knew he had been touched by sick woman.
- Jesus drew the children to him to be with him.
- Paul called on Timothy to lay hands on mature leaders (1 Timothy 5).

- Isaac blessed Jacob with an embrace and a kiss.
- Jesus knew he had been touched by sick woman.
- Jesus drew the children to him to be with him.
- Paul called on Timothy to lay hands on mature leaders.
- Early church was told to “greet each other with a holy kiss” (Romans 16:16)



LIFE PRINCIPLE

The power of touch is good for the RECEIVER and good for the SENDER.

Three blessings every person needs

- 1) Offer meaningful touches
- 2) Express high value
“...this is my beloved Son.”

...and behold, a voice from heaven said, “**This is my beloved Son**, with whom I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3:17

LIFE PRINCIPLE

**Before you honor the behavior,
embrace the person.**

Two questions

- Do my children feel **VALUED**?
“...this is my...Son...”



Two questions

- Do my children feel **VALUED**?
- Do my children know they are **LOVED**?
“...my beloved Son...”

Three blessings every person needs

- 1) Offer meaningful touches
- 2) Express high value
- 3) Give words of affirmation
“I am well pleased”

Value is focused on **WHO YOU ARE.**
(belonging)

Affirmation is focused on
WHAT YOU DO.
(behaving)

He was still speaking when, **behold**, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; **listen** to him.”

Matthew 17:5

Words of affirmation

- PRESENT: Affirm their right living
“...fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness”
–Matthew 3:15



BAPTISM

#FOREVERCHANGED

JUNE 2 , 9:10am or 10:45am

REGISTER: [GRACEPOINTCHURCH.NET/BAPTISM](https://gracepointchurch.net/baptism)

Words of affirmation

- **PRESENT:** Affirm their right living
- **FUTURE:** Affirm their life to come

God's plan is always perfect. We pray and trust in how he will make this time a part of how he will continue to use you, bless you, grow you and keep you forever His. God's hand took me to a scripture in Jeremiah. Jer. 31:3-4. "I have loved you with a everlasting love. I have drawn you with unfailing kindness. I will build you up again. You will be rebuilt." I literally held my hand over those verses in my bible. No drama in description here. Just loving belief in you [high value],

...faith in Gods hand over you [meaningful touch]. He called you up as a teenager in situations and through times that none of us truly know. He has tested you many, many times everywhere you have faithfully gone. You are a greater man in my eyes through this not lesser [affirmation]. Thankful for your brokenness and how you stand firm in your faith. We love you...

GREATLY!!

Love. Dad

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:12