

Grownup Love

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Two relationship myths...

Myth #1 - The Right Person Myth

- Once you meet the right person, everything will be all right.
- A better question: *Are you **becoming** the right person?*

Myth #2 - The Promise Myth

- A promise replaces the need for preparation.
- A better question: *Are you **preparing** to win relationally?*

To win relationally, you have to prepare.

When you follow Jesus, He will lead you to a single command.

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12

Paul's imperatives are applications of Jesus' new command.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 1 Cor. 13:4-7

When you follow Jesus, here's where you're going...

Love is...	
Patient	Not easily angered
Kind	Not a scorekeeper
Not jealous	Protecting
Not arrogant	Trusting
Honoring	Hopeful
Selfless	Persevering

Are you ready?

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. 1 Cor. 13:11

Let's Connect

What is something you've trained for? How did you prepare?

Let's Talk About It

If becoming the right person is key to a great relationship, where do you start? Is there something you can do to prepare? Sure, we're supposed to love others, but what does that really mean? A good starting place is to follow the apostle Paul's advice – to demonstrate love by treating people with patience, kindness, honor, and respect.

John 15:12; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 11; Romans 5:6-8; Philippians 2:3-6; Ps 103:12

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. What stands out to you from these verses? How would relationships, friendships and marriages look different if more people loved this way?
- Where do you have work to do? Are you impatient? Self-seeking? Easily angered? A scorekeeper? Not protective?
- Honor is at the heart of every satisfying relationship. What makes you feel honored? What makes those closest to you feel honored?
- Look over the words from 1 Corinthians 13. For each of these words, are you more interested in *becoming* more like these or for someone else to? Which one will you commit to working on? What will that require from you?

Take a Step

- A promise is no substitute for preparation. If we want to have great relationships, we must do some work. Where do you have work to do? What is one thing you can do this week to take a step?

Here's My Prayer

- Lord, help me to love others as You have loved me. As I follow you, please work on the deficiencies in my soul so I can reflect Your love in my relationships. Make me more patient, kind, trusting, honoring, humble, not jealous or selfish.