

WEEK 4 - GENUINE LOVE

OVERVIEW

Throughout his letters, Paul frequently paints the picture of the Church being an entirely new kind of community – one built not on pride, strength, and success, but on generosity, humility, and self-giving love. As we bring this series to a close, we will explore what it would look like for Grace Church to reflect these upside-down kingdom values in our interactions with one another, our willingness to serve, and in the loving, patient, and hospitable posture we take towards one another.

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.

Romans 12:9-10

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Give examples of what a person would do if they were living out the value of "put me in, coach".
- 2. Read Ephesians 4:16 How can one part of the body help other parts grow?
- 3. Read Romans 12:9-18. Describe the love that Paul is talking about in verse 9. (see also Luke 6:31-34)
- 4. What is the difference between pretending to love someone versus really loving them?
- 5. In the Grace app, Amy shared some verses to consider about loving your enemies (<u>Matthew 5:43-48,1 Timothy 2:1-2</u>, <u>Proverbs 24:17,1 Peter 3:9</u>, and more). Who are your enemies? How are you called to love them?
- 6. Read <u>Romans 12:17, Zechariah 7:9 (NIV)</u>, <u>Amos 5:24</u>. How could someone mistake vengeance for justice? Describe how they are different.
- 7. If Grace Church were reflecting upside-down kingdom values and truly living like the community Paul describes in <u>Romans 12</u>, what would we see? What would we not see?

Grace Church Value: Put Me In, Coach

We will not sit on the sidelines when God's Spirit is moving. We are activistic, engaged, and passionate about using our gifts and resources to heal this broken world in Jesus' name.