



**June 23, 2019 | Part 9: How To Love Our Neighbors
When They Don't Understand Our Values**

Matthew 5:14-16 You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, . . .

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." ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Jeremiah 29:11

The One Thing:

Influence Can Be Spelled _____,

But Is Better Spelled _____.

Jeremiah 29:1-14

Why Grace Is A Better Way:

1. Recognize That My Nature Wants a Way _____ When God's Way is Often a Way _____.

Jeremiah 29:1-6 This is the text of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to

Babylon. ² (This was after King Jehoiachin and the queen mother, the court officials and the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the skilled workers and the artisans had gone into exile from Jerusalem.) ³ He entrusted the letter to Elasah son of Shaphan and to Gemariah son of Hilkiyah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to King Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon. It said: ⁴ This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶ Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease.

2. Begin to See _____ as _____
By Looking for the _____ of God at Work.

Jeremiah 29:4

3. Help the Church Become a _____ Our
Neighbors, Not a _____ Our Neighbors.

Jeremiah 29:7 “Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

4. Share Our Values by Focusing Our _____ on the
_____.

Jeremiah 29:8-14 Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. ⁹ They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the Lord. ¹⁰ This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹² Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.”

5. Remember Our _____ Field Starts at _____.