
Living on Purpose: Life Is Not About Me

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, August 11, 2019*

“... And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” *Matthew 22:37–40, ESV*

“The Christian Life Is Neither One of Perfection nor of Passivity But
a Progressive Pursuit of Christ and His Likeness”

To Understand God’s Command to Love Others Is to Understand That Life Is Not About Me

Jesus Loved Broken People

The Extent to Which I Love Others Validates
and Communicates My Faith

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” *John 13:34–35, NLT*

“in the last days ... people will love only themselves ... They will be unloving and unforgiving... They will be cruel and hate what is good ... and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!” *2 Timothy 3:1–5, NLT*

We Are Told To...

Forgive

“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” *Colossians 3:13, NLT*

Accept

“Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.” *Romans 15:7, NLT*

Look Out for The Interest of Others

“Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.” *Philippians 2:3–4, NLT*

Show Mercy

“Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.” *Luke 10:36–37, ESV*

To Love My Neighbor as Myself ...

1. I Need a Broken and Contrite Heart

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” *Psalms 51:17, ESV*

When I Make Much of The Faults of Others,
I Become Blind to My Own

2. I Need a “We” Focus

Don’t be concerned for your own good but for the good of others.”
1 Corinthians 10:24, NLT

I Am Not Going to Love Others If the Focus of My Life
Is About Me

“You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross.” *Philippians 2:5–8, NLT*

3. I Need the Heart of God

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”
Psalms 51:10, ESV

When My Heart Is Full of Darkness, I am Consumed
with Negative Thoughts and Feelings

“but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners,

Christ died for us. *Romans 5:8, ESV*