



Sermon Notes

The Way of Agape Part 20 – Redeemed for Relationship April 11, 2021

John 1:14

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 14:9

⁹ ...Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.

Jesus came full of grace and truth to show that God the Father is full of grace and truth.

Without grace, truth is legalism. Without truth, grace is license.

John 1:17

¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6:4

Amplified Bible

⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to the point of resentment with demands that are trivial or unreasonable or humiliating or abusive; nor by showing favoritism or indifference to any of them], but bring them up [tenderly, with lovingkindness] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Truth and grace. Another way of saying it is Rules and relationship.

“Truth without relationship leads to rejection, rules without relationships lead to rebellion, discipline without relationship leads to bitterness, anger and resentment.”

Josh McDowell

Redemption without relationship leads to recidivism.

Agape love is a redemptive love.

What if the very thing meant to defeat you is actually being used by God to redeem you?

Because of His redemptive love for us, Jesus didn't come just to save us. He came to show us the way, and then to lead us in the way.



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Exodus 3:7-8

⁷ The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

Exodus 15:13

¹³ "With your unfailing love you lead the people you have redeemed.

God doesn't just redeem us from the old - He wants to lead us into the new.

God wants our hearts.

God made us for fellowship with Him.

John 5:39-40

³⁹ You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

God knows the way.

This new way God has for us is on a path we have never traveled.

We don't know where we are going – but God does!

Joshua 3:3-4

³ ...When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. ⁴ Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before.

Why not trust the new season of your life to the One who knows how to get there?



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Isaiah 42:16

¹⁶ *I will lead the blind by ways they have not known,
along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;
I will turn the darkness into light before them
and make the rough places smooth.
These are the things I will do;
I will not forsake them.*

Deuteronomy 31:8

⁸ *The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*

God doesn't want us to go back to the old.

Recidivism: to fallback on old habits

"If we don't build loving, caring, intimate relationships with our children it doesn't matter what we teach them or how much we pray for them, they'll go to the wayside."

Josh McDowell

Matthew 11:28-30 The Message (MSG)

²⁸⁻³⁰ *"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me— watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."*

