

LOVE...MORE THAN FEELING

Matthew 5:43-48

Jesus addresses the 'Us vs. Them' \_\_\_\_\_ present in 1st Century Israel.

It seems the 1st Century Jewish community considered it a sign of piety, to love their own, but to \_\_\_\_\_ others. Leviticus 19:17-18; Luke 10:27-29; Acts 10

In God's law, \_\_\_\_\_ discrimination or mistreating \_\_\_\_\_, was a clear violation of His will. Lev. 19:33-34; Ex. 12:49 & 23:4-5; Proverbs 25:21; Gen. 12:2

In the Greek language, there are 4 different words for love:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Agape is a \_\_\_\_\_ to love those we do not naturally like, and who have made clear, they do not like us.

How do we move from hate, to being filled with Agape Love?

"Love your enemies and \_\_\_\_\_ for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:44

"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be \_\_\_\_\_ your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:44-45

"For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the \_\_\_\_\_ and on the \_\_\_\_\_" Matthew 5:45

We only find the power to love as God's sons and daughters by coming into His presence - and that starts by \_\_\_\_\_ for those who hurt us.

Because 'Agape Love' is a determined choice to seek the best for others, at times this love requires the one caring unconditionally for another, to speak \_\_\_\_\_ to those who don't want to hear it. John 1:14

"You therefore must be \_\_\_\_\_, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:48

This word means, "Fully \_\_\_\_\_"

Loving people like God loves is not extracurricular. It is what we are \_\_\_\_\_ to do.

How are you doing living out this God-given super-love? 1 Corinthians 13:4-7



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WORSHIP OPTIONS



Modern Worship | Live Teaching
Sat 5:30P; Sun 9:15A, 11:00A
Located in the Worship Center



Edgy Environment | HD Video
Sunday 9:15A, 11:00A
Located in the Student Center



Acoustically Driven | HD Video
Sunday 9:15A, 11:00A
Located in the River Room

CONNECTION CARD

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

What venue did you attend?

Live

Amped

Blend

or go to 2RC.tv/Connect & complete online

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Find all upcoming 2RC events at [2RC.tv/Events](https://2RC.tv/Events)

### ALL CHURCH

**Baptism:** Are you interested in being baptised at 2RC or do you have questions about baptism? Learn more about baptism or to sign up to be baptised at [2RC.tv/Baptism](https://2RC.tv/Baptism).

**Recurring Giving:** It's easy to set up recurring giving on The City. Login and click the Giving tab on the left hand side menu. Select a fund, input the amount and set the frequency options. It's that simple! For more on giving options, go to [2RC.tv/Give](https://2RC.tv/Give).

**Text To Give:** Text To Give is fast, simple and seamless. Simply text your dollar amount to (865)635-9051. First time users will need to register. For a quick guide, visit [2RC.tv/Give](https://2RC.tv/Give).

### ROANE COUNTY

**Roane County Worship Service:** All those who are a part of the Roane County Campus, we will be having our first Worship Service together on Sunday, May 21. We will meet at **The Shed during 2nd service**. Can't wait to see you there!

### CARE

**Cancer Care:** Anyone who has been impacted by cancer, your own diagnosis or that of a family member or friend, we are here for the journey. We meet on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month in The Dock at 7:00P. Learn more at [2RC.tv/CancerCare](https://2RC.tv/CancerCare).

**Stephen Ministry:** Stephen Ministers are lay people trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, one-on-one Christian care to people going through hard times. If you are interested in meeting with a Stephen Minister, contact [StephenMinistry@2RC.tv](mailto:StephenMinistry@2RC.tv).

### FAMILY

**Pier 45 In & Out Party:** To celebrate all that God has done this year, join us for a lunch for 4th & 5th grade students & their families May 28 at 12:20P in The Shed. This will be a departure for the current 5th graders and a welcoming of our new 4th graders! Sign up at [2RC.tv/InOut](https://2RC.tv/InOut).

## PRAYER REQUESTS

I PRAYED TO RECEIVE CHRIST TODAY!

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## MID-WEEK TIMES

**MSM (6-8 Grade)**  
Wednesday 6:30-8:30P  
[River Splash | 2RC.tv/MSM](https://2RC.tv/MSM)

**FUEL (9-12 Grade)**  
Wednesday 6:30-8:30P  
[Student Center | 2RC.tv/FUEL](https://2RC.tv/FUEL)

**The Well (Prayer & Worship)**  
Wednesday 6:30-8:30P  
[River Room | 2RC.tv/WELL](https://2RC.tv/WELL)

**1829 (18-29 years old)**  
1st Thursday 7:00-8:30P  
[The Shed | 2RC.tv/1829](https://2RC.tv/1829)

## NEXT STEPS

Find out more at [2RC.tv/NextSteps](https://2RC.tv/NextSteps)

### EXPLORE

- ▶ Find a venue that fits you
- ▶ Complete a connection card
- ▶ Attend a Taste of Two Rivers

### CONNECT

- ▶ Join The City
- ▶ Register for Wade In
- ▶ Share your story

### ENGAGE

- ▶ Join a Group
- ▶ Find a place to serve
- ▶ Partner with us

## LIVE IT OUT

Find this week's full study guide at [2RC.tv/StudyGuide](https://2RC.tv/StudyGuide)

### Putting The Bible Into Practice:

Compare Exodus 23:4-5; Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-36; & Romans 12:20. What does it mean to show 'agape' to an enemy? What are some Biblical examples? Have you ever loved or prayed for an enemy? What does it mean to bless (greek - eulogy) those who curse you?

What reasons & motivations does Jesus give to bless, pray for, do good to, greet and 'agape' (choose to love) our enemies? When, how & why does Jesus do these things in your life? Has anyone ever loved you when you were unkind to them? Describe the scenario & result.

In John 15:5-17 & 16:7-13, what makes 'agape' love possible? What helps you abide or follow the Spirit? As you reflect on 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 what 'enemy' is Jesus calling you to 'agape'?

### Challenge:

Memorize Matthew 5:44. Respond to people who attack you with agape, grace & truth!

# RECURRING GIVING



Set up recurring giving on The City [2RC.tv/Give](https://2RC.tv/Give)