



*CtK exists to connect all people to the life-giving message of Jesus, as we experience God, find freedom, discover purpose, and make a difference in our world.*

*CtK in Worship—Empowerment to Grow—Relationships Bring Life—Honor in Service  
In His Presence—Sharing Jesus in Love—CtK in Mission*

**Day 17—Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>  
Relationships Bring Life  
Prayer Focus—Hands of Love**

***Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.***

***Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)***

In order to really understand this verse we must read from the beginning. These verses are titled, "The Greatest Commandment." (Mark 12:28-31) As we have learned, there is no one or nothing above Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. I would've finished there if someone asked me—what is the greatest commandment? But Jesus answered them, "Love your neighbor as yourself..."

We can claim to be selfless and giving, but can you truly love someone you don't know more than yourself? This is a hard thing to do, especially with strangers. But then I remember the golden rule found in Matthew 7:12. "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

The verse reminds us to show everyone the same respect the Lord shows us, and the respect we wish others would show us as well. If we follow the simple commandments of the Lord, then we can live in a more diverse and willing community.

*Dear Father, thank you for your love. We love you with our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Help us to extend the same love to our neighbors; both strangers and friends. Obeying the greatest commandment isn't easy. Walk beside us as we follow your commandment. Thank you for Hands of Love. They create love with their hands and then share everything made with both friends and strangers. In your holy name we pray. Amen.*

Rosa Garcia