



LOVE IS THE WAY
BY
BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY

Hope, Help, Healing
and
Love in Action

OASIS Protocols for Breakout Rooms and General Discussion A review

Assign spokesperson/note taker at beginning of breakout session

Ensure all participants have a chance to speak (if they want to speak)

Be respectful in considering and giving feedback to new or different views

When possible, a team member may be present in each breakout room to provide support

Love is the Way

**Frederick Buechner quote from
Now and Then:**

“Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is. In the boredom and the pain of it, no less than in the excitement and the gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.”

AGAPE

Greek word for love. A sacrificial love that seeks the well-being of others, of society, of the world.

Same word used to describe the love of God in the New Testament.

Michael Curry on agape: “love that looks outward, it is an action with force and follow-through.”

1 Corinthians 13: 4-8,13

13 4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.8 Love never ends. 13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. NIV

Love is the Way

I give you a new command.
Love one another.
You must love one another,
just as I have loved you.
John 13:34. NIV

“I don’t do great things.
I do small things with great love.”
Mother Teresa

God may be the source of love,
but people are often the vessels

“steal
away to
Jesus”

“danger waters”
... and struggle

Plant the seed
and water it
Now !

Rituals, practices,
prayer and meditation

Love is the Way

Dr King's Commandments of Non-Violence

Dreaming is more than pie in the sky
ideals

You don't have to change the entire
world; it's OK to "start small"

Connect dreaming to loving...

"Let's all stop worrying about
whether we like each other and
choose to believe instead that
we're capable of doing good
together."

"The call of God... is
to become the TRUE
YOU: someone made
in the image of God,
deserving of and
receiving Love."

You shall love
your neighbor
as yourself.
Galatians 5:14

The dance of nonviolent
change is different from
being a doormat.


Can love really change
the world?

"I am told to love
my neighbor,
but who is my
neighbor?"

"Everybody is
God's somebody"

Love is the Way

Thin places and mountaintop experiences



“Our stories have power. They have the power to change how people understand the world—but even before that they have the power to heal the storyteller.”

Love in Action – We Can Do This!

- Rule “a gentle pattern or framework” in Latin
- **Tangible habits** that support our heart’s intentions
- **Be Realistic and Loving!**
- **And Don’t Wait**

We believe
reclaiming Jesus’ values

Steps to Create Rules or Support for Life

Core Values/Principles (1-3)

- What values drive the people you most love or admire?
- What might most contribute to your growth?

Example: St Benedict's: Obedience, Silence, Humility

Encouraging Growth or Change or You

- What habits, action steps are important enough for you to change Your life?
- What, if anything, truly resonates with You?

Examples: body, mind, spirit, relationships, giving back, community, home, friendships

Value Vows

- What do your values mean in your daily life?
- How do you translate values to action or change?

It helps to write them out

Personal Schedule for Growth or Change or You

- Write down one baby step you know you can and will do

Breakout Questions of the Morning Discussion

10min

Do I really want or have the desire and energy to bring more intentionality and purpose to every day?

If yes, how do I reasonably do that?

If no, what do I want or have the energy to do?

Maya Angelou, Continue

<https://www.artsandmedia.islington.sch.uk/continue-by-maya-angelou/>

Loving God, fill my heart
with the love that you freely give.

Make love my first and last
thoughts. May I love others and
freely give to them. Make my
spirit of joy, happiness, and love
for both my friends and my
enemies. Help me love
abundantly as you have loved me.

Amen.