



FAITH WORKS  
“FAITH LOVES”





26 If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.

27 Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

James 1:26-27, NKJV



Religion refers to the outward consequences of what one believes (i.e., piety or good works) rather than what he believes or the fact that he believes deeply.

The background of the slide features a dark, abstract geometric pattern. It consists of numerous small, rectangular blocks of varying shades of brown, tan, and black, arranged in a staggered, three-dimensional grid-like structure that slopes upwards from left to right. Three larger, solid orange rectangles are positioned at the top of the slide, overlapping the main pattern. A single red dot is located on the left side, connected by a thin red vertical line.

“A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing,  
and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.”

Martin Luther

# The Marks of True and Acceptable Religion

1. Controlled speech that displays a changed heart.

## The Marks of True and Acceptable Religion

2. The tongue is the test of true religion.



Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Matthew 12:34, NKJV

# The Manifestation of True and Acceptable Religion

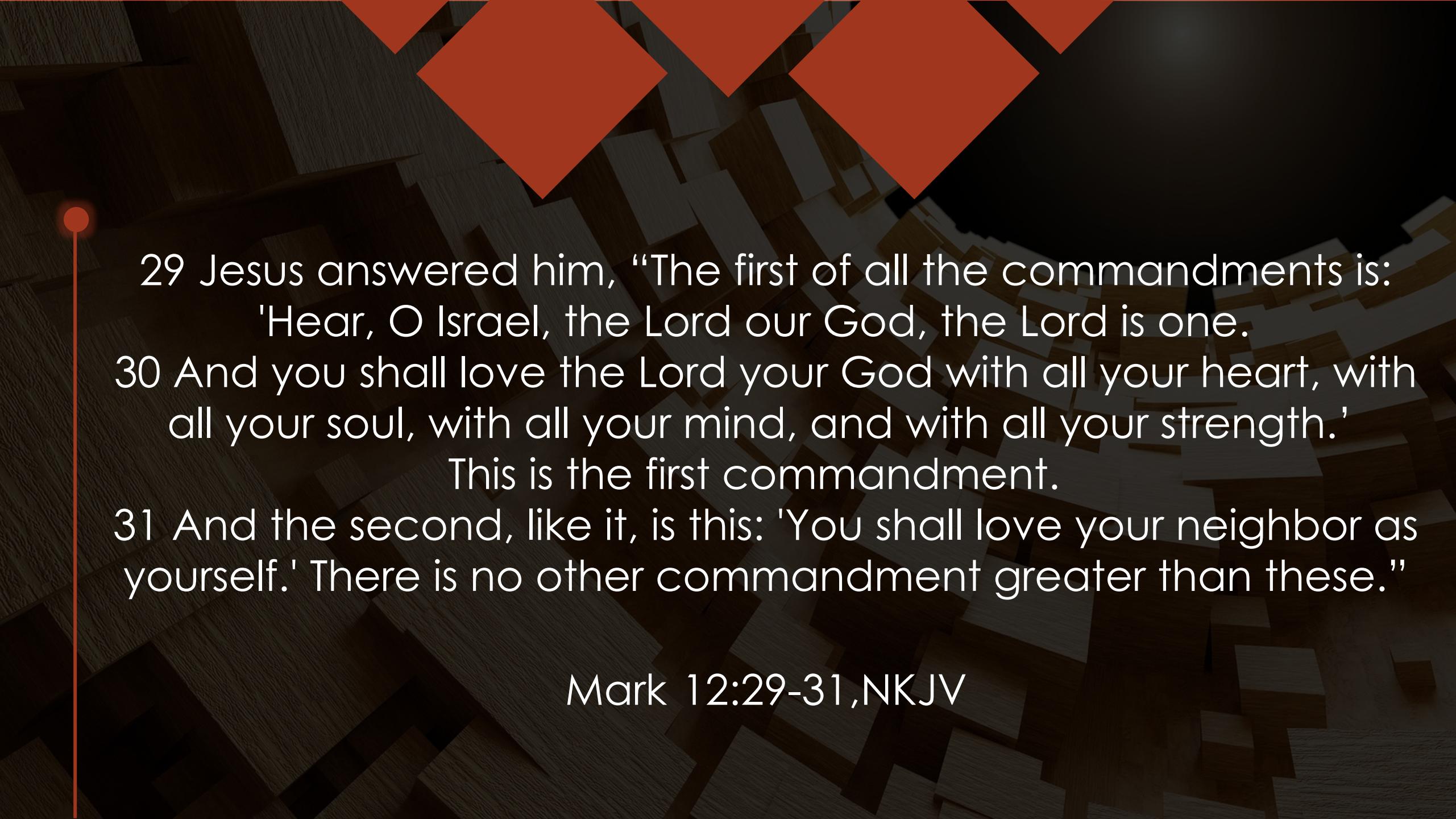
Faith always expresses itself through love.

# Obedience by Faith

20 If someone says, "I love God," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see?

21 And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their Christian brothers and sisters.

1 John 4:20-21, NLT



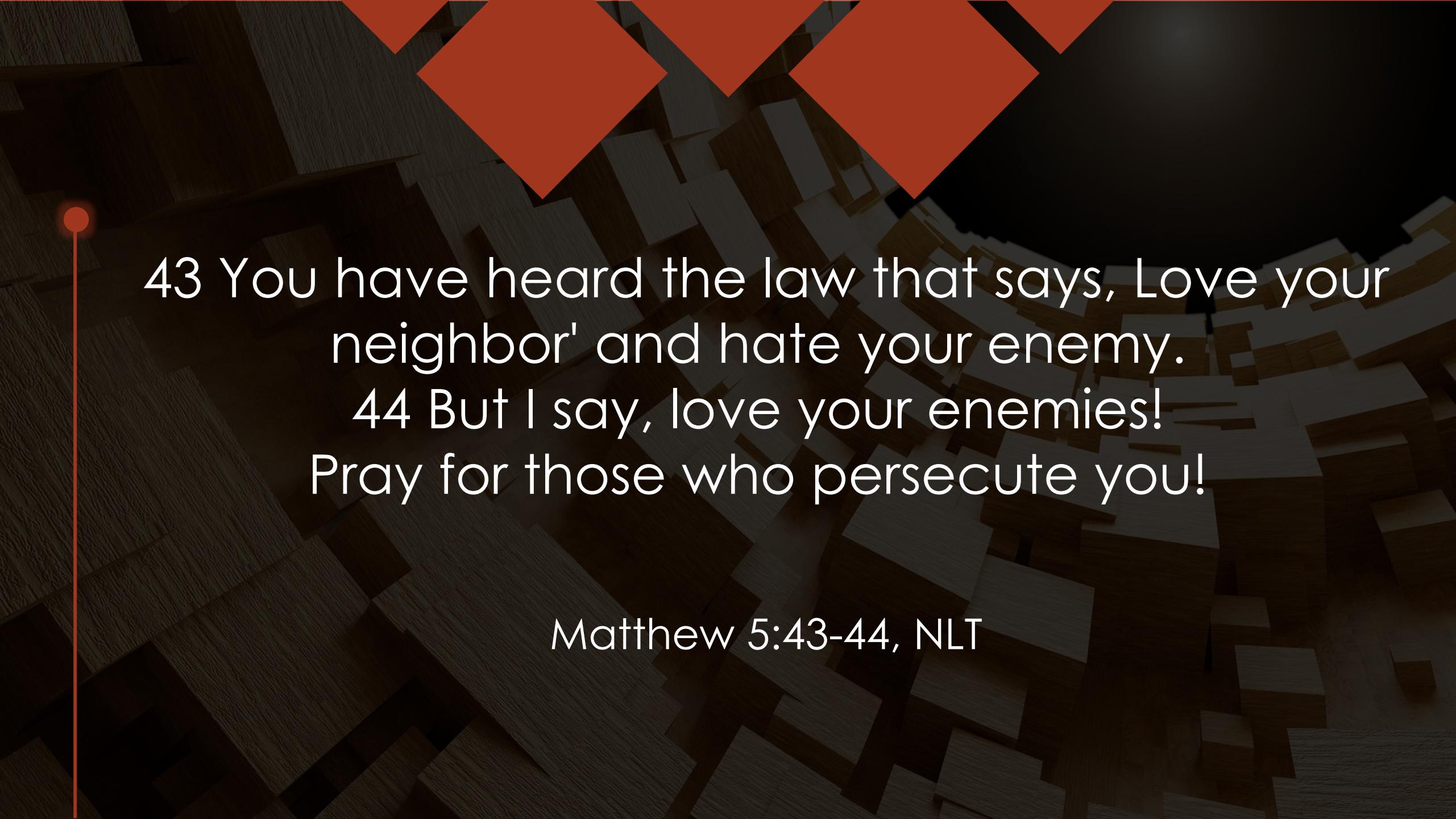
29 Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.  
30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'  
This is the first commandment.  
31 And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12:29-31, NKJV

# The Golden Rule

“Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 7:12



43 You have heard the law that says, Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy.

44 But I say, love your enemies!  
Pray for those who persecute you!

Matthew 5:43-44, NLT