

Love Is...

## BELIEVING THE BEST:

### When People Do Things that Seem Absurd

*Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*

#### Judgment (Contempt) destroys relationships

*Matthew 7:125 Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

*Romans 14:10 You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.*

I move out of judgment and into respect when I:

- Remember who we are  
*1 Timothy 1:15-16 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.*
- Stay in “I wonder”  
(not making assumption or accusations)
- Listen; try to understand their perspective
- Speak my feelings and desires clearly

When I believe the best, I am able to get to know someone  
And people are worth getting to know.

