

# Celestial Grace Temple

## What is Confucianism ?

---

**Confucianism emphasizes harmony with human society, and to that end promotes a form of etiquette by means of which a civilization can achieve astounding and fulfilling spiritual and material greatness.**

This etiquette is the natural result of education, by learning wisdom, and by the means of Confucianism one may learn of and practice right behavior with immediate benefit.

Confucianism bears a strong resemblance to Western Secular Humanism; however, it has a legacy of academic excellence nearly unbroken for over two-thousand years.

Confucianism is a world religion embedded into Chinese folk convictions and within Korean and Japanese social values. Since the twentieth century it has attracted converts in Europe and the United States without active solicitation.

### **Founding and Beliefs:**

Confucius was a great teacher born in China, 550 BCE. The major teachings of Confucius refer to a concept of li, which is a Chinese word meaning “offering” but which refers to formal ritual.

Confucius love li and used it as a means to inspire participants to profound accomplishment; at the same time, he sought to create the society which could appreciate, rather the simply perform, li.

A related concept is that of ren, which is both a feeling of love for others and the attribute of benevolence. Within Confucianism, a person who is ren practices li. This lifestyle benefits society in measurable ways, while granting personal success and spiritual fulfilment to the practitioner.

# Celestial Grace Temple

## What is Confucianism ?

---

The core value in Confucianism might be politeness. Whereas many other religions are introspective and private, Confucianism regards each person's active involvement in a community as being the means to fulfilment.

Civility is a matter of respecting fundamental relationships, those being:

1. Child's obedience to parent's proper upbringing
2. Subject good morality to ruler's benevolence
3. Wife's fidelity to husband's adoration
4. Young's respect to old's guidance
5. Friend's constancy to more-experienced friend's concern

In this hierarchy, the relationships as numbered in order of importance and listed so that the position on the left gives deference to the position on the right. Higher-ranking parties in the scheme are subject to ren criticism toward to goal of modeling the relationship after li.

These mutually beneficial relationships are permanent, even beyond death. In this way the relationships become part of a spiritual system of ancestor veneration, often improperly called "ancestor worship."

Furthermore, the status of any position in this hierarchy is continually maintained by a system of merit. Such severance of interpersonal bonds is never done lightly; ren ideally leads to conflict resolution before problems arise.

For more detailed information on Confucianism, please visit this link:

[History of Confucianism](#)

# Celestial Grace Temple

## What is Confucianism ?

---

May the grace of God be with you always --- Amen.

*Pastor Andy Anderson*

Celestial Grace Ministry