

RESTORATION

& The Power of Prayer



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& The Power of Prayer

“Come follow Me”



LOVE

Our Alpha

&

Our Omega



LOVE

The sum of it all!



GNBM.org

Whether believer or non-believer,
Love is the very core of our
existence.

Yet, what exactly is love?



Progression of love, based on our understanding:

- **Beginning at birth** – love is required for our survival. We need it from our parents or caregivers.
- **Young children** – we need love in order to grow and develop mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually.



Progression of love, based on our understanding:

- **Teenagers** –certain aspects of love beckon us to broaden our sphere of influence – so we begin to test the waters. Love takes on a new and exciting meaning.
- **Young Adults** – the need for love encompasses our world and steers our decisions.



Progression of love, based on our understanding:

- **Adults** – this need for love continues to steer our journey through life creating an ever-increasing desire to “fill the void.” It is a void that nothing of this world can completely fill.

Power, Success, money, marriage, children, friends, talents, religion, material possession, things, etc....



Progression of love, based on our understanding:

There is only ONE WAY this bottomless pit of emptiness, called “The Void,” can be filled.

It is by Our Creator. He is the only one true “Void-filler,” our One True God!

When THIS love is fulfilled, it fills to overflowing and everything else comes into perfect perspective.



Definition of love, based on our understanding:

In **Koine Greek** there contains several words that refer to the different *aspects of our word love*: (four forms)

1. **Eros** love refers to physical attraction, passion, intense desire for something and is generally referred to as sexual love or desire – from which our English word “erotic” is derived.



Definition of love, based on our understanding:

In **Koine Greek** there contains several words that refer to the different *aspects of our word love*: (four forms)

2. **Storge** love is used as a noun and refers to family affection. A familial **love** referring to natural or instinctual affection, such as the **love** of a parent towards offspring and vice versa.



Definition of love, based on our understanding:

In **Koine Greek** there contains several words that refer to the different *aspects of our word love*: (four forms)

- 3. Philia** love is the word for genuine affection or heart-felt love. This type of love can be associated with not only friendship, but loyalties to family or community.



Definition of love, based on our understanding:

In **Koine Greek** there contains several words that refer to the different *aspects of our word love*: (four forms)

4. **Agape** love is pure, perfect, unconditional, sacrificial love. The noblest form of the meaning of love, *not simply an emotion* stirred within our hearts, but **a standard** by which **we live** that is *wholly selfless* and **spiritual in nature**. This is God's love, and it is the immeasurable, incomparable love for mankind.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

1. For mankind, **Agape love** develops as the consequence of **faith in God**. The journey of this unconditional love

- a) *Begins in Faith which requires surrender – free choice.*
- b) *From surrender comes relationship – a love relationship with our Creator God.*
- c) *From this relationship develops trust – True Fellowship with God.*



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

1. For mankind, **Agape love** develops as the consequence of **faith in God**. The journey of this unconditional love

- d) *From trust springs natural obedience to God's will and His perfect way.*
- e) *From obedience comes powerful blessings and answered prayers.*
- f) *With powerful blessings and answered prayers, you have an abundant life, and life eternal part of God's purposes and perfect plan.*



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:9-10



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

2. God loved us first, Jesus is the love of God made flesh sent into this world that we might live (abide) in Him. **1 John 4:7-11**

a) From this point we are *born into the Kingdom of God— given a new and growing perspective of everything.*



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

2. God loved us first, Jesus is the love of God made flesh sent into this world that we might live (abide) in Him. **1 John 4:7-11**

b) Our part begins when we confess (choose) that Jesus is the Son of God, Savior of the world. Then we begin to abide in this love relationship; thusly, we are abiding in God.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

2. **God loved us first**, Jesus is the love of God made flesh sent into this world that we might live (abide) in Him. **1 John 4:7-11**

c) Whatever is born of God overcomes the world.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

3. Continual abiding (ever moving forward) in this love relationship with Jesus which brings the power of His Holy Spirit into us to enable us to grow and learn in His Kingdom.

a) It is from Christ's perspective –the renewed mind– that we can truly see others, as He sees them *and* loves them.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

3. **Continual abiding (ever moving forward) in this love relationship with Jesus** which brings the power of His Holy Spirit into us to enable us to grow and learn in His Kingdom.

b) *From this perspective we are enabled to **sincerely love one another, unconditionally** in His perfect Agape love.*



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

3. Continual abiding (ever moving forward) in this love relationship with Jesus which brings the power of His Holy Spirit into us to enable us to grow and learn in His Kingdom.

c) We rightly understand the real battle, who the enemy really is and what he is doing.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

1 John 3:16



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

4. It is considered a **gift of loving** . Not naturally possible to get to the point of loving the unlovely for it goes beyond “self.”
 - a) God’s agape love is an unconditional all-encompassing sum total of love that goes beyond our limited ability to define as a choice, an emotion, a standard, or even a gift.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

4. It is considered a **gift of loving** . Not naturally possible to get to the point of loving the unlovely for it goes beyond “self.”

b) Love is of God.

*“He who does not love does not know God,
for God is love.”*

1 John 4:8



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

5. We fulfill God's law and Jesus' command in Matthew 22:37-40:

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:37-40



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

5. We fulfill God's law and Jesus' command in Matthew 22:37-40.

- a) We are both compelled and propelled from the inside out by means of this perfect love.
- b) It is an abiding in Christ through the Holy Spirit.
- c) As we continue, areas of our life that were once held in bondage, experience complete **FREEDOM**.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

5. We fulfill God's law and Jesus' command in Matthew 22:37-40.

- d) All the pieces of the puzzle of our life start coming together past, present, and future for **not one moment of our life is wasted because we abide in Christ in the will of God.**
- e) Our prayers are given liberty before God for whatsoever we ask, we receive.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

5. We fulfill God's law and Jesus' command in Matthew 22:37-40.

- f) With this fulfillment on our part, which is impossible by our own might but rather through Christ Jesus:
- 1) We **OVERCOME** *the world and its' belief system*. No longer part of this world.
 - 2) We **OVERCOME** *Satan and his cohorts* for we know the Truth, the whole truth.
 - 3) We **OVERCOME** *our flesh*, our carnal nature – "SELF".



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

5. We fulfill God's law and Jesus' command in Matthew 22:37-40.

- f) With this fulfillment on our part, which is impossible by our own might but rather through Christ Jesus, we OVERCOME IN:
- 4) Our one day at a time personal journey.
 - 5) Our relationships with others.
 - 6) Our community with fellow believers.
 - 7) God's master plan for the world.



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.”

1 John 4:18



AGAPE love, six dimensions of understanding:

6. Love explains

- 1) **Why God creates** – because He loves, He creates people to love.
- 2) **Why God cares** – because He loves us, He cares for sinful people.
- 3) **Why we are free to choose** – God wants a loving response from us.
- 4) **Why Christ died** – His love for us caused him to provide a solution to the problem of sin.
- 5) **Why we receive eternal life** – God's love expresses itself to us forever.*

*aBible Devotional



What is our part as Believers?

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.”

John 15:12-17



What is our part as Believers?

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

John 15:12-17



Appreciation of the Mystery

*“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints **what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge**; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

Ephesians 3: 14-21



Appreciation of the Mystery

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3: 14-21



LOVE

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"Fighting the good fight of faith in Jesus Christ one-day-at-a-time."



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