

**AGAPE LOVE
DOES NOT
COME
NATURALLY**

(John 15:9-13) "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. {10} "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. {11} "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. {12} "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. {13} "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

INTRODUCTION

- **We looked at Peter and his refusal to tell Jesus that he loved him with agape love. He would only acknowledge philos (brotherly) love for Jesus.**
- **We looked at the fact that we use “love” too easily for too many things**
- **We looked at some descriptions of agape love.**
- **And we looked at God as the source of agape love**

**I. SOME
TYPES OF
LOVE COME
NATURALL
Y**

FOUR TYPES OF LOVE IN THE GREEK

- **Eros – Sexual Love – Comes Naturally**
- **Storge – Family Love – Comes Naturally**
- **Philos – Friend Love – Comes Naturally**
- **Agape – Godly Love – Does Not Come Naturally**

IT IS EASY TO LOVE THOSE WHO ARE LOVABLE

- **(Mat 5:46) "For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"**
- **(Luke 6:32) "But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them."**

**II. GOD NEVER
COMMANDS
ANY KIND OF
LOVE EXCEPT
AGAPE**

- **We don't need a command to do what comes naturally**
- **God commands agape love because it does not come naturally**

**GOD COMMANDS AGAPE
LOVE FOR HIM,
BECAUSE IT DOES NOT
COME NATURALLY**

(Mark 12:30) '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.

**GOD COMMANDS AGAPE
LOVE FOR HUSBANDS
TOWARD THEIR WIVES,
BECAUSE IT DOES NOT
COME NATURALLY**

**(Eph 5:28) So husbands ought
to love their own wives as
their own bodies; he who
loves his wife loves himself.**

**GOD COMMANDS AGAPE
LOVE TOWARD OUR
BRETHREN, BECAUSE IT
DOES NOT COME
NATURALLY**

(John 13:34-35) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. {35} "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

**GOD COMMANDS AGAPE
LOVE TOWARD OUR
NEIGHBOR, BECAUSE IT
DOES NOT COME
NATURALLY**

(Mark 12:31) "And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

GOD COMMANDS AGAPE LOVE FOR ENEMIES, BECAUSE IT DOES NOT COME NATURALLY

(Mat 5:43-48) "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' {44} "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, {45} "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust

**III. AGAPE LOVE
DOES NOT
CHANGE WITH
FEELINGS NOR
DEPEND ON
FEELINGS**

- **Agape love destroys divorce**
- **Agape love destroys religious division**
- **Agape love destroys loneliness**
- **Agape love does what God says**
- **Agape love cares about others**
 - **The lonely**
 - **The lost**
 - **The hurting**
 - **The needy**
 - **The unlovable**

IV. JUST AS OBEDIENCE TO GOD IS A DECISION, SO IS AGAPE LOVE

(Josh 24:15) "And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

- **Make the right decision or make the decision right – commitment**
- **Agape love is total commitment regardless of changes in feelings**

**V. GOD NEVER
COMMANDS OF
US THAT
WHICH HE WILL
NOT SEE THAT
WE CAN DO**

- (2 Cor 12:9) And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for **My strength is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
- (2 Tim 3:5) **having a form of godliness but denying its power.** And from such people turn away!
- (Eph 3:20) Now to Him who is **able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think,** according to the power that

- (Col 1:11) **strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power**, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;
- (Eph 6:10) Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and **in the power of His might**.
- (1 Pet 1:5) who **are kept by the power of God** through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

CONCLUSION

- **Do you have agape love toward God?**
- **Do you have agape love toward your mate?**
- **Do you have agape love toward your brethren?**
- **Do you have agape love toward your neighbor?**
- **Do you have agape love toward your enemies?**
- **Have you made a commitment to agape love?**