



THE “L” WORDS, PART 1

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LOVE

According to Google, love is:


- An intense feeling of deep affection
- A great interest or pleasure in something or someone
- To feel a deep romantic or sexual attachment to someone
- To like very much; to find pleasure in someone or something

Four Greek Words for Love:

- Agape
- Phileo
- Storge
- Eros

Agape or Agapao = Love

- All-consuming passion for the well-being of another
- Love without condition
- Only desires the good of the one who is loved
- Used 320 times in the Bible



“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16




“The Father loves the Son and has
given all things into His hand.”

John 3:35

“Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.” Romans 13:8-10


Phileo = Love

- Companionable love
- Brotherly love
- Fondness “liking”
- “I love you because you love me and/or are something to me or do something for me”
- David & Jonathan; Ruth & Naomi




“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”

Mathew 10:37



“For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all that He himself is doing. And greater works than these will He show him, so that you may marvel.” John 5:20



“All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.” Titus 3:15

Storge = Love

- Natural affection
- “Loving”
- Phileo Storge = “Brotherly affection”
(Romans 12:10)
- Opposite: Unloving” as in Romans 1:31
or 2 Timothy 3:3

Eros = Love

- Conditional love
- Love based upon love giver's happiness
- Self-satisfaction or passion love
- Looks for what it can receive from the one being loved; when it can no longer be received, love stops
- Love based upon attraction or chemistry, often referred to as emotional love



**Eros – not in the Bible at all; possibly,
theologically, in Song of Solomon**



John 21:15-17



v.15 “Do you love me more...”

v.15 “Yes, you know I love you...”

v.16 “Do you love me?”

v.16 “You know I love you.”

v.17 “Do you love me?”

v. 17 “Lord you know everything, you know I love you.”

v.15 “Do you love (Agape) me more...”

v.15 “Yes, you know I love (Phileo) you...”

v.16 “Do you love (Agape) me?”

v.16 “You know I love (Phileo) you.”

v.17 “Do you love (Phileo) me?”

v. 17 “Lord you know everything, you know I love (Phileo) you.”

How do you love God?

- Eros?
- Storge?
- Phileo?
- Agape?

How do you want God to love you?

- Eros?
- Storge?
- Phileo?
- Agape?