# Love Definitions & Descriptions

By Pastor Vern Peltz



Below are listed the New Testament words (Greek) that have been translated as 'Love' in the KJV. Included are their definitions and where they are found.

'Agapao' (G25) - Used approximately 117 times.

"perhaps from agan (much) (or compare 5689); to love (in a social or moral sense):-- (be-)love(-ed). Compare 5368." (Strong's Concordance)

"To Love". (Young's Concordance)

"To Love; Be full of good-will and exhibit the same;

To have a preference for, wish well to, regard the welfare of;

The love of christians toward one another; of the benevolence which God, in providing salvation for men, has exhibited by sending his Son to them and giving him up to death;

The love which led Christ, in procuring human salvation, to undergo sufferings and death:

The love with which God regards Christ;

When used of love to a master, God or Christ, the word involves the idea of affectionate reverence, prompt obedience, grateful recognition of benefits received:

To take pleasure in the thing, prize it above other things, be unwilling to abandon it or do without it;

Steadfastly to cleave to:

Hebrews 1:9; 12:6.

To welcome with desire, long for;

The unique proof of love which Jesus gave the apostles by washing their feet."

(Thayer's Lexicon)

Matthew 5:43, 44, 46, 46; 6:24; 19:19; 22:37,39.

Mark 10:21; 12:30, 31, 33, 33.

Luke 6:27, 32, 32, 35; 7:5, 42, 47; 10:27; 11:43; 16:13.

John 3:16, 19, 35; 8:42; 10:17; 11:5; 12:43; 13:1, 23, 34, 34; 14:15, 21, 21, 21, 23, 23, 24, 28, 31; 15:9, 12, 17; 17:23, 24, 26; 19:26; 21:7, 15, 16, 20.

Romans 8:28, 37; 9:13; 13:8, 8, 9.

1 Corinthians 2:9; 8:3.

2 Corinthians 9:7; 11:11; 12:15.

Galatians 2:20; 5:14.

Ephesians 2:4; 5:2, 25, 28, 28, 33; 6:24.

Colossians 3:19.

1 Thessalonians 4:9.
2 Thessalonians 2:16.
2 Timothy 4:8, 10.

James 1:12; 2:5, 8.

1 Peter 1:8, 22; 2:17; 3:10.

2 Peter 2:15.

1 John 2:10, 15, 15; 3:10, 11, 14, 14, 18, 23; 4:7, 8, 10, 10,11, 12, 19, 20, 20, 21; 5:1, 2, 2. 2 John 1, 5.

3 John 1.

Revelation 1:5; 3:9; 12:11.

#### 'Agape' (G26) - Used approximately 106 times

"from 25; love, i.e. affection or benevolence; specially (plural) a love-feast:--(feast of) charity(-ably), dear, love." (Strong's)

"Love". (Young's)

"Affection, good-will, love benevolence:

The love of men to men; especially of that love of christians to christians which is enjoined and prompted by their religion, whether the love be viewed as in the soul or as expressed:

The love of men towards God:

The love of God towards Christ;

The love of Christ towards men;

Troublesome service, toil, undertaken from love;

Love which embraces the truth:

God is wholly love, his nature is summed up in love;

A kiss as a sign among Christians of mutual affection;

Love feasts; feasts expressing and fostering mutual love which used to be held by christians before the celebration of the Lord's supper, and at which the poorer christians mingled with the wealthier and partook in common with the rest of food provided at the expense of the wealthy."

(Thayer's)

Matthew 24:12.
Luke 11:42.
John 5:42; 13:35; 15:9, 10, 13; 17:26.
Romans 5:5, 8; 8:35, 39; 12:9; 13:10; 15:30.
1 Corinthians 4:21; 8:1; 13:1, 2, 3, 4-8, 13; 14:1; 16:14, 24.
2 Corinthians 2:4, 8; 5:14; 6:6; 8:7, 8 24; 13:11, 14.
Galatians 5:6, 13, 22.
Ephesians 1:4, 15; 2:4; 3:17, 19; 4:2, 15, 16; 5:2; 6:23.
Philippians 1:9, 17; 2:1, 2.
Colossians 1:4, 8; 2:2; 3:14.
1 Thessalonians 1:3; 3:12, 16; 5:8, 13.

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2 Thessalonians 1:3; 2:10; 3:5.
1 Timothy 1:5, 14; 2:15; 4:12; 6:11.
2 Timothy 1:7, 13; 2:22; 3:10.
Titus 2:2.
Philemon 5, 7, 9.
Hebrews 6:10; 10:24.
1 Peter 4:8, 8; 5:14;.
2 Peter 1:7.
I John 2:5, 15; 3:1, 16, 17; 4:7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16, 16, 17, 18, 18; 5:3.
2 John 3, 6.
3 John 6.
Jude 2, 12, 21.
Revelation 2:4.
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### 'Thelo' (G2309)

"apparently strengthened from the alternate form of 138; to determine (as an active option from subjective impulse; whereas 1014 properly denotes rather a passive acquiescence in objective considerations), i.e. choose or prefer (literally or figuratively); by implication, to wish, i.e. be inclined to (sometimes adverbially, gladly); impersonally for the future tense, to be about to; by Hebraism, to delight in:--desire, be disposed (forward), intend, list, love, mean, please, have rather, (be) will (have, -ling, - ling(-ly))." (Strong's)

"To will or wish". (Young's)

"apparently strengthened from the alternate form of 138; to determine (as an active option from subjective impulse; whereas 1014 properly denotes rather a passive acquiescence in objective considerations), i.e. choose or prefer (literally or figuratively); by implication, to wish, i.e. be inclined to (sometimes adverbially, gladly); impersonally for the future tense, to be about to; by Hebraism, to delight in:--desire, be disposed (forward), intend, list, love, mean, please, have rather, (be) will (have, -ling, - ling(-ly)). (Thayer's)

Mark 12:38.

Used 216 times in the N.T. Under various other words. (Desire, will, would are dominant)

'Phileo' (G5368)

"from 5384; to be a friend to (fond of (an individual or an object)), i.e. have affection for (denoting personal attachment, as a matter of sentiment or feeling; while 25. [Agapao] is wider, embracing especially the judgment and the deliberate assent of the will as a matter of principle, duty and propriety: the two thus stand related very much as 2309 and 1014, or as 2372 and 3563 respectively; the former [Phileo] being chiefly of the heart and the latter [Agapao] of the head); specially, to kiss (as a mark of tenderness):--kiss, love." (Strong's)

"To be a friend". (Young's)

"To love; to be friendly to one;

To delight in, long for;

To be desirous of preserving one's life, (as opposed to hate it when it cannot be kept without denying Christ;)

To love to do, to do with pleasure;

To Kiss; [this is the word used in all 3 gospels of Judas' betrayal kiss of Jesus]
As to the distinction between Agapao and Phileo: the former (Agapao), ....properly denotes a love found in admiration, veneration, esteem, but denotes an inclination prompted by sense and emotion.. Hence men are said to Agapao God, not Phileo; and God is said. [to] Agapao [the world] (John 3:16), and Phileo the disciples of Christ (John 16:27); Christ bids us Agapao (Matt. 5:44), because love as an emotion cannot be commanded, but only love as a choice. It is evident that Agapao is not, and cannot be, used of sexual love."

(Thayer's)

Matthew 6:5; 10:37, 37; 23:6.

Luke 20:46.

John 5:20; 11:3, 36; 12:25; 15:19; 16:27, 27; 20:2; 21:15, 16, 17, 17, 17.

1 Corinthians 16:22.

Titus 3:15.

Revelation 3:19; 22:15.

# 'Philoproteuo' (G5383)

"From a compound of 5384 and 4413; to be fond of being first, i.e. ambitious of distinction:--love to have the preeminence.". (Strong's)

"To love to be first". (Young's)

"Fond of being first; striving after first place; to expire after pre-eminence; to desire to be first".

3 John 9.

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'Philadelphos' (G5361)
      "From 5384 and 80; fond of brethren, i.e. fraternal:--love as brethren." (Strong's)
      "Loving one's brethren". (Young's)
      "Loving brother or sister; in a broader sense, loving one like a brother; christians
      loving christians, loving as brethren". (Thayer's)
      1 Peter 3:8.
'Philadelphia' (G5360)
      "From 5361; fraternal affection:--brotherly love (kindness), love of the brethren."
                                                                                   (Strong's)
      "Love of brethren". (Young's)
      "The love of brothers or sisters, brotherly love;
       The love which christians cherish for each other as 'brethren'. (Thayer's)
      Romans 12:10 - "be kindly affectioned to one another with Philadelphia"
      1 Thessalonians 4:9.
      Hebrews 13:1.
      1 Peter 1:22.
'Philarguria' (G5365)
      "From 5366; avarice:--love of money.". (Strong's)
      "Love of Silver". (Young's)
      "Love of money; avarice". (Thayer's)
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#### 1 Timothy 6:10

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'Philoteknos' (G5388)
      "From 5384 and 5043; fond of one's children, i.e. maternal:--love their children."
                                                                                  (Strong's)
      "Lover of children". (Young's)
      "Loving one's offspring or children". (Thayer's)
      Titus 2:4.
'Philandros' (G5362)
      "From 5384 and 435; fond of man, i.e. affectionate as a wife:--love their husbands."
                                                                                  (Strong's)
      "Lover of husband". (Young's)
      "Loving her husband." (Thayer's)
      Titus 2:4.
'Philanthropia' (G5363)
      "From the same as 5364; fondness of mankind, i.e. benevolence ("philanthropy"):--
      kindness, love towards man."
                                     (Strong's)
      "Love of mankind". (Young's)
      "Love of mankind; benevolence". (Thayer's)
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Titus 3:4. ("Love")

Titus 3:4. ("Toward man")

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Acts 28:2. ("Kindness")
'Prosphiles' (G4375)
      "From a presumed compound of 4314 and 5368; friendly towards, i.e. acceptable:--
      lovely." (Strong's)
      "Very lovely, or lovable". (Young's)
      "Acceptable, pleasing, lovely". (Thayer's)
      Philippians 4:8.
'Philotheos' (G5377)
      "From 5384 and 2316; fond of God, i.e. pious:--lover of God." (Strong's)
      "Lover of God". (Young's)
      "Loving, Lovers of God". (Thayer's)
      2 Timothy 3:4.
'Philagathos' (G5358)
      "From 5384 and 18; fond to good, i.e. a promoter of virtue:--love of good men."
                                                                                  (Strong's)
      "Lover of the good". (Young's)
      "Loving goodness". (Thayer's)
      Titus 1:8.
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'Philoxenos' (G5382)
      "From 5384 and 3581; fond of guests, i.e. hospitable:--given to (lover of, use)
      hospitality." (Strong's)
      "Lover of strangers or hospitality". (Young's)
      "Hospitable; generous to guests". (Thayer's)
      Titus 1:8.
'Philautos' (G5367)
      "From 5384 and 846; fond of self, i.e. selfish:--lover of own self."
      "Lover of Self". (Young's)
      "Loving one's self; too intent on one's own interests; selfish"
      2 Timothy 3:2.
'Philedonos' (G5369)
      "From 5384 and 2237; fond of pleasure, i.e. voluptuous:--lover of pleasure."
                                                                             (Strong's)
      "Lover of pleasure'. (Young's)
      "Loving pleasure". (Thayer's)
      2 Timothy 3:4
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\*\*\*\*\* Please notice: all the Greek words that begin with 'Phil' have to do with affection for, or fondness of something / someone. Both words are emotionally based. Where Agapao and Agape carry emotion, they are not emotionally based.

## Scriptural descriptions of God's Love?

#### A. Agapao:

- 1. Luke 6:32-35
  - Love does good for our enemies, and lends to them without expecting anything in return.
  - a. Godly Love does good for people, and will lend to them without reciprocation being a factor.
- 2. John 3:16; Galatians 2:20.
  - Godly Love causes us to invest of ourselves and our resources into another person without knowing whether we'll get a return on the investment.
  - a. That's part of what makes it Unconditional.
- 3. John 14:15, 21, 23, 24, 31.
  - Love is Obedience (Submission) to God.
- 4. Ephesians 5:25.
  - Love will do what best for the other person at their own expense even to the point of death.
- 5. Acts 10:34 God / Love is not a respecter of a person / people -- and shows no partiality. (God is Love 1 John 4:8)

- 6. 1 Peter 1:22 Philidelphia and Agapao.
  - a. Since we have Loved each other with/in Kindness
  - b. See to it we Agape (Love) each fervently from a pure heart. (Fervently: "Intently and with Intense Feeling")

#### B. Agape.

- 1. John 15:13.
  - Love is so focused on the betterment of the other Person, it will lay down its own life for them.
- 2. Romans 13:10 Amp.
  - Godly Love never hurts or harms anyone.
  - It is the fulfillment of the Law.
- 3. 1 John 4:9. (With verse 10)
  - Love invests in others to the point of death to itself so the other person may benefit and live.
- 4. 1 John 4:10.
  - True Love is extended when nothing is offered or given in return.

(Unconditional)

- Verse 11-12 > That is the example we're to follow.
- 5. 2 John 6.
  - Love is Obedience to what God says.
- 6. 1 Corinthians 8:1.
  - Agape works to build up and construct the other person.
- 7. Colossians 3:14.
  - Love is maturity, completeness, of full age.
- 8. 1 Cor. 13:4-8
  - Patient, Kind, Does not Envy, Does not Boast, is not Proud, is not Rude, is not Self-Seeking, is not Easily Angered, Keeps no Record of Wrongs, Does not Delight in Evil, Rejoices with the Truth, it Protects, Trusts, Hopes, Perseveres, and Does not Fail.

- a. Please notice: with the exception of Hope please notice the obvious lack of emotional language.
- 9. Love is Obedience. (To God)
  - John 14:15-24, 15:9-17 (Agapao & Agape)
  - 1 John 5:2. (Agapao)
  - 1 John 5:3. (Agape)
- 10. Rom. 12:9-10.
  - a. V. 9 Agape
    - V. 10 Philadelphia
  - b. Out of the foundation of Agape, we are to show Kindness to our Brothers. (Family Term)
- 11. John 15:12-13 laying life down for others. (1 John 3:16)
  - a. V. 12 > Agapao.
    - > We are commanded to Love each other as he has Loved us.
    - V. 13 > Agape
      - > Greatest Love > when we lay down... life....
  - b. (G5590 Psuche)
    - Soul. (Mind, will, emotions, intellect, reasoning, desires, etc.)
- 12. Agape & Agapao Love is unconditional.
  - It is not dependent on meeting any conditions before we are recipients of God's Love.
  - John 3:16 (Agapao).
    - > God invested Jesus into everyone without any conditions attached, and no guarantee of what kind of return on the investment.
  - Romans 5:8 (Agape).
    - > God demonstrated..... yet sinners.....
  - Galatians 2:20 (Agapao).
    - > (same as John 3:16)
  - 1 John 4:10 (Agapao and Agape).
    - > (same as John 3:16)

- 13. 1 Peter 4:8 it forgives and disregards the offenses of others. It covers a multitude of sins.
- 14. Godly Love is Commanded.
  - Matthew 22:38-40 (Agapao).
  - John 13:34-35 (Agapao & Agape).
  - John 15:12 (Agapao).
  - 1 John 4:21 (Agapao).
  - 2 John 5 (Agapao).
  - 2 John 6 (Agape).

#### C. Phileo.

- 1. Phileo is hypocritical. It loves to be seen for what it does. Loves recognition. (Likes getting credit or atta-boys)
  - Matthew 6:5; 23:6; Luke 20:46.
- 2. It chooses people. Picks certain ones above others. It is more loyal and affectionate to some.
  - Matthew 10:37.
- 3. It loves / enjoys / longs for attention and to feel special or to be treated special.
  - Matthew 23:6; Luke 20:46.
- 4. It is most interested in itself (It's Psuche). Selfish.
  - John 12:25.
- 5. It is worldly love. (How the world loves)
  - John 15:19.
- 6. It will lie to protect / preserve itself, to feel good about something, etc. (Def. of Phileo)
  - Revelation 22:15.

- 7. Yet when Phileo is built on top of the foundation of Agape (Take all the selfishness out and just leave the affection) > It can be Godly.
  - > God is 'Agape'. Yet he expresses 'Phileo'.
    - John 5:20; 11:3, 36; 16:27; 20:2.
    - Revelation 3:19.
  - > We are told to express 'Phileo'.
    - John 16:27.
    - 1 Corinthians 16:22.
    - Titus 3:15.

# Summary of Agape and Phileo

# A. Agape / Agapao:

- Agape Love focuses on being 'other person' oriented.
   (By definition and scriptural descriptions)
  - a. It does not consider / make decisions by:
    - what affect it will have on me / us.

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(Agape / Agapao Def.; Eph. 5:25; John 15:13)
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- if we will get anything in return. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8)
- Our feelings, or emotions. (John 15:13; 1 John 3:16)
- Our preferences, desires, etc. (Agapao Def; Rom. 12:9-10; Phil. 2:3) (It is self-sacrificial in it's approach.)

#### 2. It's consideration is on:

- the other person. (John 15:13; 1 John 3:16; Phil. 2:1-4)
- Servant mindset and approach.
  (Agapao Def; 1 John 4:11)
- It prefers others above itself. Gives them preference.
   (Includes putting yourself in their place)
   > (Rom. 12:9-10; Phil. 2:3; Agapao Def.)

- It lays down it's feelings, desires, viewpoints, needs, emotions, etc. for others. (Jn. 15:13)
- Investing into the other person, regardless of the prospect of any return from the investment.

(John 3:16; Romans 5:8)

3. It is unconditional.

(John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Galatians 2:20; 1 John 4:10; Agapao)

- 4. Agape Love is not 'relationship'.
  - But relationship <u>should</u> come out of it. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Gal. 2:20)
- 5. Godly Love is Logic not Emotionally driven.
  - It's choices emanate from the will only.
  - As it matures, our Emotions will support it.
     (But even when we don't feel it, we can Agape)

(Def. of Phileo; Luke 6:32-35; All scriptures on Love and Obedience; 1 Cor. 13:4-8)

- 6. Agape is:
  - Consistent.
  - Predictable.
  - Self-Sacrificing.
  - Has Longevity.

(1 Cor. 13:4-8)

(Because it is Logically, & Will driven - not emotionally driven)

- 7. Agape is affectionate.
  - However, the affection is built upon the logic, fact, and discipline > not emotion.

(Def. for Agapao & Agape; 1 Peter 1:22;)

- God is Agape. (1 John 4:8). Yet he expresses Phileo to his disciples. (John 16:27) Phileo affection is a Godly thing once the selfishness is taken out of it via Agape.
- 8. True Agape's concern is as much for others and how it deals with and handles them as how it does these with itself. (Mt. 22:39)
  - Agape does apply to how 'we' deal with and 'handle' ourselves. (Matthew 22:39)
  - But, it gives very little regard or consideration to how 'others' handle and deal with us, because we're not committed to them 'for us'. We're committed to them 'for them'. (Phil. 2:7 > 'No reputation' KJV. 'Nothing' NIV. And took on the form of a servant. >>> That's Agape Love being demonstrated)
- 9. Agape is not offendable.
  - a. 1 Cor. 13:5 ("not self-seeking")
    - Offense typically comes from having our feelings hurt and then seeking to protect ourselves.
  - b. I'm not in it for me. (How I think or feel) Why would I get offended with you.

(Def. of Agapao & Agape; scriptural descriptions)

- 10. Agape does not label people.
  - a. 1 Cor. 13:5b ("it keeps no record of wrongs")

- God does not develop an opinion or attitude toward someone for something they may have done or have been - and now they are labeled. (Will carry that reputation or stigma for life)
- 11. Agape would have evil exposed (even though it may be saddening) so the truth can be known, than to no expose the evil.
  - a. 1 Cor. 13:6.
- 12. Agape Love will remain faithful to a person and investing in them. (Period.)

  They will do this to whatever degree they are allowed by that person.
  - a. 1 Cor. 13:7-8.
- 13. Agape does not have clicks or factions of friends.
  - a. Phil. 2:1-4. (Esp. v. 2)
    - Being like-minded, one in spirit and purpose and Agape Love are all considered the same thing. They are one in essence.
  - b. God is Love. (1 John 4:8) He does not show favoritism. (Acts 10:34)
  - c. Romans 13:10 (Amp). Factions harm people.
- 14. Agape is commandable. This is proof it is not emotionally based. Emotions cannot be commanded.

(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 22:38-40; John 13:34-35; 15:12; 1 John 4:21; 2 John 5-6). All the scriptures where we are commanded to Love all use Agapao / Agape. Never Phileo - because it is more emotionally based)

15. Agape is maturable and produces maturity. (Col. 3:14)

16. Mature Agape is Unity. (Col. 3:14)

#### B. Phileo:

- 1. Phileo Love (Without Agape) is 'self orientated'.
  - a. It's first consideration is self. (Selfish). Decisions are made on the basis of:
    - It prefers and preserves itself first.
    - How I will or want to feel.
    - How I will or want to be affected.
    - Will I like this.
    - What will I get out of this.
    - Is all about the kind of relationship produced.

(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 6:5; 10:37; 23:6; Luke 20:46; John 12:25; 15:19; Rev. 22:15)

- 2. It is emotionally based and driven.
  - How we handle people and relate with them will ultimately come down to how it makes us feel.

(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 6:5; 10:37; 23:6; Luke 20:46; John 12:25; 15:19; Rev. 22:15)

- 3. Phileo (Worldly Love) without Agape (God's Love):
  - Is very inconsistent.
  - Unpredictable.

- Will only sacrifice to the degree it will benefit it's own interests.
- Longevity is questionable. (Too dependent on personal ideas, desires, priorities, emotions)
- It has factions, clicks, groups. (John 15:19 "Belongeth to")

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(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 6:5; 10:37; 23:6; Luke 20:46; John 12:25; 15:19; Rev. 22:15)
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- 4. It is very conditional.
  - It is given most easily, consistently, and often to those who will reciprocate.

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(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 6:5; 10:37; 23:6; Luke 20:46; John 12:25; 15:19; Rev. 22:15)
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- That's why Agape not Phileo is for our enemies.
- 5. It is very affectionate. (With some, not everyone)
  - In Phileo, the affection leads and everything else follows. It is very emotion driven. (not logic discipline driven)

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(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 10:37; 23:6; Luke 20:46; John 15:19)
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- It is the source of sexual love. (Not Agapao)
   (Def. of Phileo > Esp. Strong's Def.)
- 6. Pure Phileo is concerned how others are handling it. Especially how others make it feel.

(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 6:5; 10:37; 23:6; Luke 20:46; John 12:25; 15:19; Rev. 22:15)

- C. Common misunderstandings about God's Love. (Definitions I received from my survey)
  - 1. What is Love? (I did a little survey...)
    - > An emotion.
    - > A relationship where you feel Loved. Cared for. You feel like you have a friend.
    - > Caring about another person.
    - > Acceptance and Approval. (Agreement ?)
    - > Forgiveness.
    - > Being close to someone, or intimate with them.
    - > A relationship that leaves you feeling good.
    - > We know we're loved when we feel loved / feel good about the relationship.
      And we know we're giving love when they feel good about the relationship.
    - > Being made to feel special or important, or making someone feel special or important.
    - > Having relationship and spending time together.
    - > Treating someone or being treated tenderly, kindly, nicely is Love.
  - 2. Misunderstandings:
    - #1. Godly Love is not an emotion. (Phileo is)
      - a. It is intended to have emotion support it, but emotion is not needed to have it or express it.
      - a. As it matures, emotion will agree with it and support it, but it transcends emotion.
    - #2. Agape is not a relationship. It transcends Relationship.

- a. It is intended to produce relationships, but they are not needed to have and express Godly Love.
- #3. Agape Love is not friendship.
  - a. Again, it is intended to produce friendship, but friendship is not needs to have Agape or express Agape.
  - b. Therefore it transcends Friendship.
- #4. Agape Love transcends all of the way we defined it.
  - a. It is intended to have these various elements:
    - Acceptance, Approval, Forgiveness, closeness & intimacy, good feelings, tenderness, being nice, feeling important or special, (being treated....) etc.
  - b. With the exception of two of them:
    - Caring.
    - Kindness.
    - > But they too are not built on emotion or feelings.
  - c. It is intended to have all those elements, but it is far more than any of them, or even the sum of them.
- D. By the definitions and scriptural descriptions:

At it's core Agape Love is:

A Choice we make to discipline ourselves to obey God. It is a commitment. He sets the standard of every aspect of our lives of how we live and behave toward him and others. As we mature in that obedience, an affection and emotion is to develops to support our choices of obedience. They are felt by us and those receiving Agape from us.

Godly Love is placing such a high value on someone that you refuse to live without doing everything in your power to make their life better, more prosperous, and hopefully establishing a covenant type of relationship with them. But whether a mutual relationship establishes or not, our investment into the person does not change.

#### Footnote:

The more mature we become in this Love, the more overwhelming the affection and emotion can become to both us and the receiver.

The less we feel emotion or affection developing, the more crucial it is to make the choice to live in Agape Love toward the other person. The less we feel like it, the more important it becomes to obey God's commands and standards of what Agape really is.