

Summary of Agape and Phileo

A. Agape / Agapao:

1. 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.

(Agape / Agapao Def.; Eph. 5:25; John 15:13)

**- 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 should 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")

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

4. It is very conditional.

- It is given most easily, consistently, and often to those who will reciprocate.

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

- 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)

(Def. of Phileo; Matt. 10:37; 23:6; Luke 20:46;
John 15:19)

- 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.