

①

The word LOVE in English is so one dimensional like what the world needs now is love sweet love

In God's Word, the Bible, 3 kinds of love are described

① "Eros" - love which is romantic love - the attraction of a man and a girl. This kind of love occurs over and over again as we grow up. Nothing wrong with it

② "Phileo" - family love you experience as you grow up in a loving family - brothers, sisters - mom + dad

③ Agape - the love of God - which He expressed in an objective way when Christ came and died for my sins, your sins because He loved us, even when we were his enemies

The description of these 3 kinds of love:

- ① Eros - I'll love you if you love me - by responding romantically to my flirting
- ② Phileo - I love you because you have loved me as my Mom, Dad, Bros + Sisters - blood family love
- ③ Agape - I am committed to love you no matter how you respond - with God's unlimited, unconditional accepting love. This is only possible when God, the H.S.







② has poured Christ's love in your heart.  
Christian marriage is a committed, lifetime relationship. We must gain God's view of a healthy marriage.

① First - God tells us to leave our parents and cleave to one another - and become one flesh - i.e. complete one another.

② God created marriage and it is reflected in the foundational structure of the church. In Eph. 4 we see how God works in the structure of the church to redeem the world - to love, to save, to mature + discipline to teach etc.

In Eph. 5 Paul defines marriage and the role of each member: male and female. But even in this context Paul bases the marriage on the understanding of our relationship in the BOC: to give of oneself in every area for the good of another.

① Submitting to one another in love of another.

② Submitting to Christ as the head is of to our submitting to our husbands.

③ The husband is to love his wife as Christ loves us in the BOC - unconditionally, sacrificially and with an unlimited amount of love - never never withdrawn.

This is agape love - supernatural love  
→ committed - not based on contingencies of being treated the way you want to be treated.  
- commitment is independent from the other person's actions or reactions  
→ to give of oneself - a choice to give, not demand.



The first... is a... of...  
The second... is a... of...  
The third... is a... of...

The fourth... is a... of...  
The fifth... is a... of...  
The sixth... is a... of...

The seventh... is a... of...  
The eighth... is a... of...  
The ninth... is a... of...

The tenth... is a... of...  
The eleventh... is a... of...  
The twelfth... is a... of...

The thirteenth... is a... of...  
The fourteenth... is a... of...  
The fifteenth... is a... of...

The sixteenth... is a... of...  
The seventeenth... is a... of...  
The eighteenth... is a... of...

The nineteenth... is a... of...  
The twentieth... is a... of...  
The twenty-first... is a... of...

The twenty-second... is a... of...  
The twenty-third... is a... of...  
The twenty-fourth... is a... of...



③ in every area - true agape love is not selective "for the good of another" - means distinguishing between what someone says they want and what they need

This is why it is so important before marriage that you experience Body Life in the church. The health and understanding of your marriage is largely influenced by healthy relationships in the BOC.

i.e. ① as you learn to give and receive from one another

② as you minister together in the BOC

③ as you listen to and accept the counsel of older mature believers

④ as your love relationships with Christ deepens

By doing this you are getting prepared to experience and build a great Christian marriage - one that will last - one that will express the BOC in a small unit i.e. you, your husband, your children and those who enter your home

Remember, the health of your marriage depends on you each taking your life and love from Christ - not demanding from each other. Christ's agape love will envelop and enhance your relationship beyond anything you can imagine

That's what I pray for you

I go. 4!



