

Agape love devotion November 2017

You have probably heard the term “agape love,” but may not be really clear on what it means. What is agape love? How is it any different from the dozens of other ways we use the word love? First, let’s understand what it is not. It is not romantic love, because people of all faiths (and no faiths) experience romantic love. It is not brotherly love, where you have a natural chemistry with another person. Terrorists and members of the mafia experience brotherly love. There’s certainly nothing uniquely Christian about that!

God has given us agape love.

Romans 5:5 Now this hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Agape love is unconditional love. It is a choice we make to love another person whether they love us back or not. It means that you choose to love someone even if he is your enemy! Agape love is not based on emotion at all. In fact, it may be contrary to our every emotion. It is an act of the will. Agape love presents a real challenge for us Christians. It is tough to live out because it’s hard to love someone who doesn’t respond to you in the way you would desire. And all of us are going to have certain individuals—even within the body of Christ—that we have to struggle to love. And yet, God’s word is very clear: Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God. Now, you couldn’t find a clearer command about what we’re called to do as followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus “agape loves” us and commands us to “agape love” others.

Agape love caused Jesus to sacrifice His life for us.

Revelation 1:5 and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us.

Agape love is self-sacrificing in the best interest and not common interest. Can we say I love you because God’s working through me and He is looking out for you? We need to love them how they need to be loved and not necessarily how they want to be loved. “I’m going to love you because the Father used me to love you specifically so that it may bring healing into your life. I will not love you the way you want to be love because it’ll feed your flesh’s desire and have no substance, no meaning. All will disintegrate.” It’s all about looking out for others. Our behaviour towards one another. Loving unconditionally. God’s love.

When it comes to loving difficult people, we don’t rely on our own strength but God’s. His Love will help us to love difficult people.

We are to show agape love to our brothers and sisters.

Ephesians 5:1-2 Therefore, be imitators of God, as dearly loved children. And walk in love, as the Messiah also loved us and gave Himself for us, a sacrificial and fragrant offering to God.

As we move in to a time of advent let us pray that Gods agape love will permeate all that we in his name and service.

God bless

Pastor