

Four Types of Love
Taken from C.S. Lewis

How do we use the word, "Love" in America?

I love cheeseburgers!



I love my daughter!



I love the Vikings!



I love my phone!



I love this song!



I love my spouse!



Does the word 'love' have a range of meaning?

**Using the Greek Language
(the language of the New
Testament) let's examine
Four Loves.**

**What Kind of Love
is Storge?**



Affection (Storge)

- The care of mother to babe is a picture of affection.
- The affection for the people always around us, in the normal day-to-day of life, is the majority of the love we experience, even if we don't label it.
- It is an instinctive, natural affection or protectiveness.

Affection (Storge)

- There is a sense of responsibility for the welfare and well-being of another because of obligation in the natural, not moral, sense.
- Must be ruled by a higher form of love, because if a person lives by affection alone, they can run on empty and become resentful, tired, and hateful for those they are called to care for!

What Kind of Love is Philia?



Friendship (Philia: the love between friends)

- Friendship likely has closest resemblance to Heaven where we will be intertwined in our relationships.
- Philia is a love of liking and fondness.
- Love between friends who share common interests, goals, outlooks, or personalities.

Friendship (Philia: the love between friends)

- The Greeks made much of friendship and this word was used by them to designate mutual affection, as we feel towards a person who is fun to be with.
- Seldom used to describe our relationship with God but used in our relationship to other people.
- Must be ruled by a higher form of love, because living with friendship only will develop into exclusive friend groups that scorn outsiders.

What Kind of Love is Eros?



Romantic (Eros)

- Eros' basis is primarily in the physical, triggered by emotion, and can be good or bad.
- This is the very heart of sexual desire, romantic infatuation, and playful romance.

Romantic (Eros)

- Eros focuses on sexual and romantic face to face interactions with another person. Unlike friendship, there is no common interest but the interest is the other person.
- Must be ruled by a higher form of love, because eros left to itself will result in selfish desires that turn inward, resulting in using other people as objects to satisfy physical desires.

What Kind of Love is Agape?



Charity (Agape)

- This is our chief aim, the unconditional love of the Father given to us through his Son.
- Agape love does not act the way that we might think. It does its works of love secretly and hides them from other.
- Agape is not boastful, arrogant, resentful, or prideful.

Charity (Agape)

- Agape does not seek to get but to give.
- Agape does not seek on its own way but serves another.
- Agape is self-sacrificing and holds to truth.
- Agape is a foundational love that is found beneath all the other loves.

Questions?

Questions?

- What is the most important love:
 - Storge?
 - Philia?
 - Eros?
 - Agape?

Questions?

- ▀ How does society and culture primarily understand love?
 - ▀ Storge?
 - ▀ Philia?
 - ▀ Eros?
 - ▀ Agape?

Questions?

- ▀ What if a relationship has only eros and...
 - ▀ No storge?
 - ▀ No philia?
 - ▀ No Agape?

Questions?

- ▀ Can philia be mistaken for eros?
 - ▀ Why or why not?
 - ▀ And if so, then what?

Questions?

- ▀ Does it make sense that agape is needed to hold all the other three loves together?
 - ▀ Why or why not?

Questions?

- ▀ How is Marriage a picture of Agape?
 - ▀ (Look at Marriage Vows in Hymnal)

Questions?

- ▀ What happens if Marriage is seen only as Eros?



Questions?

- Could it be said that Marriage holds Storge, Philia, Eros, and Agape together?



Conclusion
