

Philadelphia Freedom

Love in Romans 12:9-16

Love without Hypocrisy

Hate Evil

Devoted Brotherly Love

Cling to Good

Give Preference
with Honor

Language of Love

1. Greatest Christian Virtue
2. Demonstrated In & Out of Church
3. Logically Follows Romans 12:1-8
4. Loves What God Loves; Hates What God Hates
5. Sacrifices for others (agape).

Two Kinds of Love

1. Agape love without hypocrisy
2. Devoted to phileo love: “philadelphia”

Pay close attention to synonyms!

Devoted Brotherly Love

Family type of love;
Closest earthly ties of affection;

“Devoted” means tenderly
affectionate

Matthew 12:46-50

A changed family relationship;
A changed family-priority dynamic;

Jesus' family is those who
love Him and His
Heavenly Father.

Christian Badge of Love

John 13:34-35

1 Thessalonians 4:9

1 Peter 1:22

1 John 3:23

1 John 4:20-21

Commands!

Compare Agape & Phileo

Romans 12:9

Romans 12:10

320x

45x

God's Essential Nature

1 John 4:8

**Self-sacrifice for
benefit of unlovable**

Doesn't involve self-
sacrifice

Agape & Phileo

Disdained by Greeks &
Romans

To value, esteem, prize,
unselfish, ready to
serve, sacrificial,
deliberate choice,
comes from the will,
not an emotional
impulse

Cherished by Greeks &
Romans

To be a friend, be fond
of, affection for, from
heart/feelings,
cherish, arises from
affectionate feelings,
no obligations for the
one who loves

Agape & Phileo

Not drawn out by
pleasurable qualities
of the object loved

Romans 5:8

Drawn out by
pleasurable qualities
in the object loved;

Responds to something
in object loved that is
like something in the
one loved

Agape & Phileo

Command for men
toward God

Never commanded for
men toward God

God's attitude to Son
John 17:26

Father's attitude to Son
John 3:35; 5:20

God's attitude to man
John 3:16; Romans 5:8

Jesus attitude to John
John 13:23; 20:2

Agape & Phileo

God's attitude to Saved
John 14:21

God's attitude to Saved
John 14:21; 16:27

Believer's attitude to
Believer

John 13:34; Romans 12:9

Believer's attitude to
Believer

Hebrews 13:1; 1 Thess. 4:9

Agape

Demonstrated by Believers in obedience

John 15:10

Perfectly expressed in life of Christ

2 Corinthians 5:14

Divine fruit of the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5:22

Phileo

Revelation 22:15

Matthew 6:5

John 11:3

John 16:27

Titus 2:4

Titus 3:3

Telling Text of Competing Loves

Lesson 1

We will ALWAYS sacrifice for
and serve what we love most.

See Psalm 115

Competing Loves

Lesson 2

Restoration is always available after failure if there is repentance.

Competing Loves

Lesson 3

Do not be deceived,
a true Christian is totally
committed to following Jesus and is
willing to practice self-denial and
sacrifice for the Lord.

Competing Loves

Lesson 4

Love is a choice.

Agape love is love which impels
the one loving to deny self
for the benefit of the one loved.

Luke 9:23

Now What: Romans 12:9-10

1. Love for God and others must be **genuinely sacrificial**, not merely an emotional affection; it must have **self-denying action**.

Now What

2. Love for other believers, especially in the local church, must be as tender-hearted as one's love for his own family.

Now What

3. Brotherly “philadelphia” love is not enough by itself (remember Peter); it must be saturated with “agape” love in order to be raised to a higher “heavenly” level.

We must “agape” those we “phileo.”

Decision Time

1. Do you “agape” Jesus or do you merely “phileo” Jesus?
2. Are you tender-hearted, affectionately devoted to your brothers and sisters in Christ.