

Jesus - Do You Love Me?

“When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ He said to him a second time, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love Me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ and he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed My sheep.’” (John 21:15-17)

“Our only business is to love and delight ourselves in God.”

-Brother Lawrence

1. Do you love Me...more than these?

- **A comparison checkpoint.**

“Simon, son of John, Do you love Me more than these?”

(John 21:15)

4 Greek Words for “Love”

1. “Storge” - family love.
2. “Eros” - romance love.
3. “Phileo” - friendship or brotherly love.
4. “Agape” - sacrificial love.

What Comparison is
Jesus Making?

- More than the other disciples?
- More than his love for fishing?
- More than anything?
- More than anyone?

“Agape” - sacrificial; unselfish; actions, not emotion;
commitment to undeserving.

Biblical Christianity is Based on God’s “Agape” Love

- “God so loved the world.” (John 3:16)
- “God demonstrated His love toward us.” (Rom. 5:8)
- “God is love.” (1 John. 4:8)

Biblical Christianity Expects Us to Love the Lord (“Agape”)

- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart...” (Matt. 22:37)
 - “We love because He first loved us.” (1 John 4:19)
 - Biblical Christianity, therefore, puts Jesus first, above all other “loves.”
 - Biblical Christianity is all about a relationship of love with Jesus and with one another.
- Jesus is not part of your life –
He is your life!

“No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other.” (Luke 16:13)

“We cannot help conforming ourselves to what we love.”
-St. Francis de Sales

“But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.” (Rev. 2:4)

Peter’s answer - “Yes, Lord, You know that I love You.” (15b)

Love = Phileo - natural affection; friendship.

2. Do you love Me...with sacrificial devotion?

- A commitment checkpoint.

“He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me?” (John 21:16)

Why?

Only “agape” love will endure through any thing that comes our way.

“Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope - it can outlast anything. Love never fails.”

(1 Cor. 13:4-8a)

Peter previously claimed great commitment - “Though all fall away, I will never fall away.” (Matt. 26:33)

“Loving God, means more than feeling good about Him. We express our love when we yield ourselves to Him.”

-Joseph Stowell

“He does not want to give you a ‘makeover...’ But He instead wants a ‘takeover.’”

-John MacArthur Jr.

“If you love Me, you will keep my commandments.” (John 14:15)

“Sin is the contempt of His love.” -John Bunyan

“God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.”

-John Piper

“Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” (Phileo)

“I love You, O Lord, my strength.” (Psalm 18:1)

“The Lord is my rock, in Whom I take refuge.” (2)

“The Lord lives and blessed be my rock.” (46)

3. Do you love Me as a friend?

- A compassion checkpoint.

“He said to him a third time, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love Me?’” (Phileo love, John 21:17)

“Peter was grieved because He said to him a third time, ‘Do you love Me?’”

“Lord, You know all things; You know that I love you.” (Phileo)

“For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;” (2 Cor. 5:14)

Therefore...love His sheep!

1. Feed My lambs. (15)
2. Tend My sheep. (16)
3. Feed my sheep. (17)

“For the love of Christ controls us...” (2 Cor. 5:14)