

What is Love?

There are many songs about Love, actually taking a good guess whether the song has the word Love in or not, does not matter, I reckon that at least 60% of songs would have to be about Love in one form or another. There are three main Greek or Hebrew meanings for the word Love and they are 1. Agape - unconditional Love, like a mother has for a son or daughter regardless of what they have done. 2. Philio - Friendship Love, where you love ya mates and love to hang around them that special friendship etc. 3. Eros - Erotic Love, this one comes in many forms like lusting after a good looking guy or girl, or a better explanation would be a sensual attraction.

The ultimate Bible verse that 99.9% of Christians know is John 3v16 'for God so Loved the World that he gave his only begotten Son.....'. What sort of Love is this? Take a look at the condition of the world at the very moment when Jesus was born, Israel had not heard from God for about 400 years, the religious rulers had such a tight grip on the people that they were basically in bondage as well as Israel itself being in bondage to Rome. Idolatry and human sacrifice, false religions were rampant throughout the then known world, so this kind of Love was Agape, unconditional, God gave his Son regardless of the conditions of the world or regardless of what the world thought of it he just gave.

What about today? Is God's Love still on the earth? Have a think about it, have a look at what is happening in the world, in the streets around your home, overseas, in the church that you go to, have a look in your very own home. Is there Love? Well maybe there is in your very own home, but your street, even though there may be Love it is Philio or Eros, there is no Agape unless other Christians live in your street and live by the word.

I have been a born again Christian now for 24 years, a pastor for 6, in ministry in one form or another for all together about 15 years, and I lack in the area of Agape Love. Agape Love goes as far as loving the unlovable, but it is not just a thought, or what you say, it is what you do!! If you Love someone with the Love of God, your actions will prove it. Like God gave his ONLY Son, what would you give to someone who would not deserve even your attention because he or she was the scum of the earth? What would you do for someone? How would you treat someone who didn't deserve anything?

Romans 5v8 *"But God shows and clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us"*. Sure we would maybe die for our best mate, or our children or spouse, but would you die for some one you didn't know? Actions speak **louder** than words? Someone may say to you "I love you", but their actions tell you a complete different story, As I grew up, got married, had children of my own and got a closer relationship with my mother, she told me every time she saw me that she loved me, and she did especially by her actions. My mother was a classic example, she loved me so much, she would abuse me if I didn't bring her grandson around for a sleepover so Sharon and I could have a break. Every week although she did not know we were struggling financially would give us bags of groceries and meat, it was nothing to her to give us her last \$10 for petrol and many other things.

It is so easy for me to sit here and write this, and so easy for you sit there and read it and the both of us say, I would do good to someone, I love people, but do you Love them with the Love of God that Agape Love? Do you go out of your way for them? Do you go the extra mile for someone who has broken down on the side of a road and stop and offer help even though you are in a hurry? When you are tired, do you stay up that little longer on the phone just to listen to someone pour out their hurts?

By about now some of us are making excuses like, you can't help everyone, or you can't wear yourself out helping others. That is all it is too, an excuse! A selfish one! Every time someone needs help we use this same excuse and we end up doing nothing for noone! Think about it, or maybe we have had a busy week and we are not feeling well? I bet Jesus was not feeling well as he carried that cross out of the city! What if he said "STUFF IT I have had enough, you all say you love me then you all want me crucified", **actions** speak louder than words!

For God so loved the world..... What about you? What about me? Do we pray for others in Bikers 4 Christ, Do we pray for others that we do or don't know, like Michelle Corby over there in Thailand who a personal friend of a friend of mine who is a missionary led her to the Lord in jail over there, matter of fact he actually went to see her, went out of his way and was persecuted for it, he put his own life in danger because they are all Muslim or Buddhists etc over there. OK, so we do pray for them, we pray for others in Bikers 4 Christ, but I can tell you right now, I know at least 4 people in Bikers 4 Christ who have not had a visit for many months.

Then I hear the excuse but noone visits me! **We reap what we sow!!** A Visit can totally change a persons day, week or life, even as much as a phone call can also. It does not mean that we are used as a door mat and walked all over, or go stupid about it all and burn ourselves out, but there has to be at least an effort.

Luk 11:42 *But woe to you, Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every [little] herb, but disregard and neglect justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done without leaving the others undone.***1Jo 3:17** *But if anyone has this world's goods (resources for sustaining life) and sees his brother and fellow believer in need, yet closes his heart of compassion against him, how can the love of God live and remain in him?* **Mat 5:43-45** *You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy; v44 But I tell you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [see also Prov. 25:21, 22.]*

v45 *To show that you are the children of your Father Who is in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the wicked and on the good, and makes the rain fall upon the upright and the wrongdoers [alike].*

Bless ya - Roscoe