

Christian Characteristics

Love

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1. Define Love

1 Cor. 13:4-7

4 Love is patient, love is kind, love is not jealous, *it* does not boast, *it* does not become conceited,

5 *it* does not behave dishonorably, *it* is not selfish, *it* does not become angry, *it* does not keep a record of wrongs,

6 *it* does not rejoice at unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth,

7 bears all *things*, believes all *things*, hopes all *things*, endures all *things*.

1. Define Love

OT Hebrew Terms of Love:

hesed – Conveys a longing for attachment

āhēb – Encompasses love between individuals, affection for family, and loyalty in political contexts

dôd – Romantic love

ra'yâ – Romantic love

yādîd – Refers to the beloved of God, emphasizing divine protection

ḥāšaq – Conveys a longing for attachment, applicable in both secular and theological contents

1. Define Love

NT Ancient Greek Types of Love:

Eros (Romantic): Passionate, romantic love, often involving physical attraction and desire.

Philia (Friendship): Deep friendship and affection, often characterized by intimacy and mutual respect.

Storge (Affection): Familial love, encompassing the love between parents and children or other family members.

Agape (Charity): Unconditional, selfless love, often associated with love for all humanity.

1. Define Love

NT Ancient Greek Types of Love:

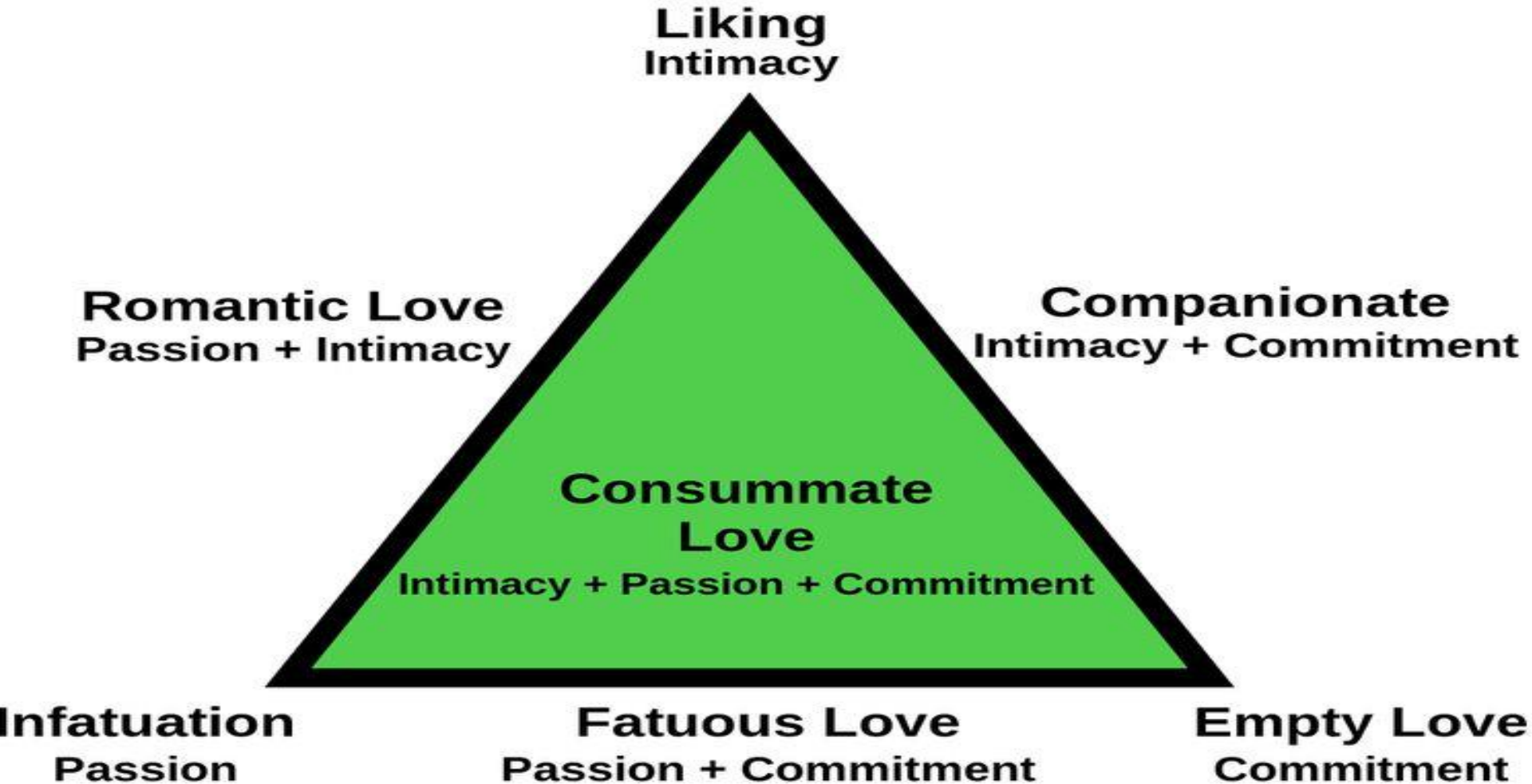
Philautia (Self-love): Self-love, a healthy sense of self-esteem and appreciation.

Pragma (Enduring): Long-lasting, practical love, often found in committed relationships.

Ludus: Playful, lighthearted love, often seen in early stages of a relationship.

Mania: Obsessive love, characterized by intense emotions and possessiveness.

1. Define Love



2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning “Love” and explain the verses.

Matt. 22:36-40

36 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”

37 And He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’”

38 “This is the great and foremost commandment.

39 “The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

40 “On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning “Love” and explain the verses.

John 3:16

16 “For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall
not perish, but have eternal life.

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning “Love” and explain the verses.

A loving relationship involves:

1. Commitment and loyalty.
2. Trust and respect for the person loved.
3. The giving and surrendering of oneself.
4. Knowing and sharing.

3. Provide an example of someone who exhibited “Love” in the Old Testament.

Gen. 29 – Gen. 31

Gen. 29:18-20

18 Now **Jacob loved Rachel**, so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.”

19 Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than to give her to another man; stay with me.”

20 So Jacob served seven years for Rachel and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her.

4. Provide an example of someone who exhibited “Love” in the New Testament.

John 11:1-46

The Death and Resurrection of Lazarus

John 11:5

5 Now **Jesus loved** Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

5. How do Christians reflect a Christ-Like attitude through “Love”?

Christians reflect a Christ-like attitude through love by embodying humility, compassion, and a commitment to serving others, mirroring Jesus' actions and teachings.

This includes demonstrating patience, kindness, forgiveness, and a willingness to sacrifice for others, all while striving to reflect God's love in their daily lives.

Christian love is knowing that, whatever you face, you face it so God can be glorified through you.^{1,2}

6. How do you grow in “Love” and seek opportunities to demonstrate “Love” to others?

Pray that your love will grow. (Phil. 1:9-11)

We all know that God is love and that God tells us we are to love each other.

We are to love our friends, our enemies, our spouses, our children, our family and we are to love Him most of all.

6. How do you grow in “Love” and seek opportunities to demonstrate “Love” to others?

1. Show appreciation and gratitude to others.
2. Listen actively and communicate openly and honestly.
3. Display empathy.