



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“They shall we are Christians by our?”

What is Love?

February 14 is known as St. Valentine's Day. It is a day where people express their love to the person who means the most to them. More cards, flowers, candy, and jewelry are given on that day than any other. The word love and acts of love would be present around the world. It was on that day 39 years ago; that I did something romantic. I gave my sweetheart of five months, a boy and a girl teddy bear with a card asking her to marry me. You can guess what she said. It was on that day 64 years ago; I was born to my mother Betty Lou and father Lester Stambaugh. That is why I am so sweet.

There are tons of songs about love. “Yummy, yummy, I got love in my tummy.” “What the world needs now is love sweet love.” “I think I love you but what am I afraid of?” “Love me tender, love me sweet” “What do you get when you fall in love?” (You can tell my age by the songs I remember.)

But what is love? Good Therapy website states: “Love is a complex set of emotions, behaviors, and beliefs associated with strong feelings of affection, protectiveness, warmth, and respect for another person. Love can also be used to apply to non-human animals, to principles, and to religious beliefs.”¹

Our English language is so weak in the meaning of love. The ancient Greeks used seven words to define the different states of love. **Storage**: natural affection, **Philia**: friendship, **Eros**: sexual and erotica, **Agape**: unconditional, divine love, **Ludus**: flirting, **Pragma**: committed, married love, **Philautia**: self-love

In I Corinthians 13:4,5 love is described as: “suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil”. A Pharisees asked Jesus what was the greatest command “Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” Matt 22:37-39

As a reader, I would “love” to hear from you what you think love means. It can be just one word or paragraph. What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul and mind? What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? I will publish the responses.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” Roms 5:8 Do you know this love?

“For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Roms 8:38-39

What
is *Love?*

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Listen [“The Love of God”](#)

“Though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing.” I Cor 13:2



Tell me how you do it?

¹goodtherapy.org/blog/psychpedia/love

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