

Session Three

Love and Commitment

Many Kinds of Love

The New Testament, in its original Greek, contains three words that have different meanings in the Greek language. But all three of them are translated as "love" in English. The three words are these:



AGAPE: the perfect love of God

EROS: romantic love

PHILIA: friendship, or what we call "brotherly love"

Many (though not all) human beings will have, in their lives, some experience with each kind of love. Read the list below, and put a letter before each item on the list. If you think the item is an example of *agape* love, put an A. If it exemplifies *eros*, put an E, and put a P if it is an example of *philia*. Discuss your answers with the rest of the class.

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|--|---|
| ___ Valentine's Day | ___ Donations to charity |
| ___ Birthday present for a sibling | ___ Volunteer work at a soup kitchen |
| ___ Sharing a sandwich | ___ Praying for an enemy |
| ___ Accompanying an elderly neighbor who must go to the vet to have her beloved dog put to sleep | ___ Gift to a boyfriend/girlfriend |
| ___ A date | ___ Marriage |
| ___ Forgiving a generally-unliked person | ___ A few minutes of help to a stranger |
| ___ Proofreading a paper for a friend | ___ Infatuation |
| ___ Family reunion | ___ The death of Christ on the cross |
| | ___ Doing the dishes because everyone else seems really tired |

2023.02.27

Introduction & Overview

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The first part of the course is an introduction to the course and the second part is an overview of the course content.



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The course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the course content and the second part is an overview of the course content.

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