

Lifeverbs

And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."
Mark 12:30-31 NLT

Webster's Definitions of Key Life Verbs and How God Defines Love

EMOTIONAL RESPONSES Based on Conditions Being Met or Continued

Two Greek Words are translated "love" in the New Testament - *phileo* and *agapao

#1 *phileo* - to hold dear; to cherish; to feel a lover's passion, devotion, or tenderness

- 1. Admire - to esteem highly**
- 2. Adore - to regard with reverent admiration and devotion; to be extremely fond of**
- 3. Appreciate - to admire greatly**
- 4. Cherish - to hold dear; to feel or show affection for; to keep or cultivate with care and affection; to entertain or harbor in the mind deeply and resolutely**
- 5. Desire - to long or hope for; want, crave, or covet with strength of feeling and strong intention; to like or desire actively;**
- 6. Esteem - to set a high value on**
- 7. Like - to feel attraction toward or take pleasure in; to wish to have**
- 8. Lust - to have an intense desire or need; to have a sexual urge**
- 9. Respect - to consider worthy of high regard**
- 10. Treasure - to hold or keep as precious; cherish**
- 11. Trust - to place confidence; to commit or place in one's care or keeping; to permit to stay or go or to do something without fear or misgiving**

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. 1 Cor 13:4-6 NLT

ACTIONS Based Upon One's Will

#2 agapao - "Christian love, whether exercised toward the brethren, or toward men generally, is not an impulse from the feelings, it does not always run with the natural inclinations, nor does it spend itself only upon those for whom some affinity is discovered. Love seeks the welfare of all, Rom 15:2, and works no ill to any, 13:8,9,10; love seeks opportunity to do good to 'all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith,' Gal 6:10. (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

- 1. Commit - to pledge or assign to some particular course or use**
- 2. Covenant - to enter into a formal, solemn, and binding agreement**
- 3. Forgive - to cease to feel resentment against an offender; to pardon; to give up resentment of or claim to requital for an insult**
- 4. Honor - to regard or treat with respect**
- 5. Obey - to follow the commands or guidance of; to comply with**
- 6. Promise - to declare to do or refrain from doing something specified**
- 7. Submit - to commit to the discretion or judgment of another**
- 8. Vow - to make a solemn promise to bind oneself to an act, service, or condition**

God's View of Love

While the Hebrew and Greek words for "love" have various shades and intensities of meaning, they may be summed up in some such definition as this: **Love, whether used of God or man, is an earnest and anxious desire for and an active and beneficent interest in the well-being of the one loved. Different degrees and manifestations of this affection are recognized in the Scriptures according to the circumstances and relations of life, e.g. the expression of love as between husband and wife, parent and child, brethren according to the flesh, and according to grace; between friend and enemy, and, finally, between God and man. It must not be overlooked, however, that the fundamental idea of love as expressed in the definition of it is never absent in any one of these relations of life, even though the manifestation thereof may differ according to the circumstances and relations.** Christ's interview with the apostle Peter on the shore of the Sea of Tiberias (John 21:15-18) sets before us in a most beautiful way the different shades of meaning as found in the New Testament words phileo, and agapao. In the question of Christ, "Lovest thou me more than these?" the Greek verb agapas, denotes the highest, most perfect kind of love (Latin, diligere), implying a clear determination of will and judgment, and belonging particularly to the sphere of Divine revelation. In his answer Peter substitutes the word philo, which means the natural human affection, with its strong feeling, or sentiment, and is never used in Scripture language to designate man's love to God. While the answer of Peter, then, claims only an inferior kind of love, as compared to the one contained in Christ's question, he nevertheless is confident of possessing at least such love for his Lord. (from International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia, Electronic Database Copyright (c)1996 by BibleSoft)

Phileo & Agape

John 11:1-5

11:1 Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.
2 (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)
3 Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou **lovest (phileo 5368)** is sick.
4 When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.
5 Now Jesus **loved (agape 25)** Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. KJV

John 16:27

27 For the Father himself **loveth (phileo)** you, because ye have **loved (phileo)** me, and have believed that I came out from God. KJV

John 19:26

26 When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he **loved (agape)**, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! KJV

John 20:2

2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus **loved (phileo)**, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. KJV

John 21:15-17

15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest (phileo)** thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I **love (phileo)** thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.
16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest (agape)** thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.
17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest (agape)** thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, **Lovest (phileo)** thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I **love (phileo)** thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. KJV