

C3 GROUP QUESTIONS

F2022-WEEK 12

11/20/22

Getting Started with a Warm-Up:

- “How Does Your Love Language Impact Your Relationship?: Research reveals ways the five love languages do (and do not) influence couples”

What Are Love Languages?

The 5 Love Languages' highly intuitive premise is that there are five key ways that we express love: gifts (e.g., surprising them with a present), words of affirmation (e.g., giving them compliments), quality time (e.g., intently listening to them), acts of service (e.g., doing errands for them), and physical touch (e.g., giving them a hug) (Egbert & Polk, 2006). While you may use any of the five “languages” to show your partner love, according to Chapman, you have one primary or dominant style. A recent study found that the most preferred love language was time (40.8%), followed by touch (40.0%), words (22.7%), service (13.6%), and gifts (4.0%) (Hughes & Camden, 2020).

Do Love Languages Impact Relationships?

Love languages are a good story. They're simple, intuitive, and easy to implement. The problem is, they're likely wrong.

First, it's important to note that love languages have not been widely studied. However, two early dissertations examined how knowing your partner's love language might impact relationship satisfaction (Thatcher, 2004; Veale, 2006). Neither study found that it helped. In fact, not only did knowing the partner's primary love language not correspond with greater relationship satisfaction at the moment, but it also didn't relate to greater satisfaction three weeks later (Veale, 2006).

(Lewandowski, Jr. , G. W. (n.d.). How does your love language impact your relationship? Psychology Today. Retrieved November 18, 2022, from <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-psychology-relationships/202111/how-does-your-love-language-impact-your-relationship>)

- What are your love languages? What are your spouse's love languages?

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Getting Down to Business:

The following questions are following this format: Scripture/Observation, Application, and Prayer (SOAP).

1) Scripture/Observation:

A. Read Matthew 5:44-45. Is God's love selective? Is his grace selective as well?

B. Read Jonah 4:2 and 2 Peter 3:9. What do these passages tell us about God's compassionate love towards people? Is this degree of God's love the same towards the saved and unsaved?

C. Read Luke 13:1-5. Is there a sense that God's love is conditional? Why or why not? What is his warning?

D. Read 1 John 2:2. Describe God's love towards sinners? Does God express His love differently toward the unsaved and the saved, and if so, how so?

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2) Application: How should the knowledge of the different degrees or expressions of God's love affect the way we express love to Christians and non-Christians? How is it possible to love someone but not condone or affirm what they do?

3) Prayer: As you pray, ask God to reveal how much he loves you through his word. Also ask him to grow your faith in him through a deeper and more intimate relationship with him.

We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. (1 John 4:16 NLT)