

Types of Love

April 24, 2015

Love! What is Love? This word Love is used too often for too many things. In the English language we use this one word, Love, to mean so many things. If you are someone who goes to a Christian Church you have heard that in Greek, the language of the New Testament, there are three types of Love mentioned in the Bible. The first is Philos, which is brotherly love. The love you should have for your fellow human. This is an important type of love. We even have a major city in Pennsylvania named after this type of love: Philadelphia, the city of brotherly love. Well, there are many places in Philadelphia that you would not want to walk around in because there are those who have not heard that Philadelphia is the city of brotherly love.

The second type of Love found in the Bible is Eros. This is the love one person has for their mate. This is a sexual love. This love, in my opinion, is a type of love we put too much stress on. Don't get me wrong this is not a bad Love and it is an important type of Love but this type of Love is short term. And often dies out too fast. If you are married and your whole relationship is based on this Eros Love, you will be in trouble very fast. You also need to have a other types of Love for your mate to make a marriage last.

The third type of Love found in the Bible is Agape. This is Godly love. This is the Love that God has for us. Now I am not going to get into an evangelistic sermon right now about this. If you want to know more about this contact me or a Church of your choice.

These three types of Love is stressed so much when talking about Love, however, I feel that there are so many other types of Love than what is mentioned in the Bible. How-about the Love of a parent for a child? This can be one of the strongest Loves there is. This is also what can cause some of the most devastating heart aches there are. Okay, let's go on. How-about the Love of a child for a parent? Then there is the Love we have for our pets. Then there is the Love of objects, which I feel should be listed very low on the list of loves. Now, there is the Love of activities and abilities. For example, I Love playing music. I also Love writing music, writing poetry, writing articles, and so on and so on. I just Love being creative. Lastly there is the Love of self. This is a type of Love that everyone starts off having but along the way something happens that takes that away from some people. By my count that brings us to nine types of Love that I can think of off the top of my head. So many different meanings for one word, but I am sure that many others can come up with more. However, the one meaning that brings me here is the last on I listed, the love of self.

I was just reading an article about a man who has dedicated his life to people who do not really Love their selves or their bodies. He was the "plastic surgeon to the stars." Many people who have a problem with self-Love end up taking it out on their bodies. This "plastic Surgeon to the starts" worked to try to give these people a body or look that they could love. But the problem is that you can change your body some but you need to change what is in your soul first in order to Love yourself. Well, this plastic surgeon finally had enough trying to get people to Love themselves that he finally decided that he didn't Love himself and did away with his self.

You see, to me this is a very sad story. I know what it is to be in that dark place. That place so very dark that you see no way out of things. You feel that your loved ones and the world in general would be so much better off without you. What has brought me back was the Love of my family and friends, as well as the Love of those who I didn't even know very well. They got it through my thick head that I was Loved and that they would not be better off without me around. I remember my first year teaching at Woodbury Public Schools, I was going through a divorce and I was really very low. It was a Saturday and I was working the video for the High School football game. As I was heading back into the school building, two of the students that were walking ahead of me stopped and turned around and said, "Don't worry Mr. Krauss, we Love you." That meant so much to me and it was one of those times that brought me back from the edge. Oh, I still end up along that edge from time to time but then I remember that Love. That Love has pulled me back many, many times.

So, why am I writing this today? Maybe, it is because I have had a real rough April. Maybe, everything that has been happening to me is building up and I need to remind myself of this Love that I have been talking about. I don't really know, but I do know that what I am trying to say is, when you see someone who is down, it will cost you nothing to take a minute to tell them that they are Loved just like those student did for me. I promise you that you will make a difference.

Just a few thoughts. Until next time.

Jim