

“We need others physically, emotionally, intellectually: we need them if we are to know anything, even ourselves.”

C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*

Three observations:

1. We are all hard-wired to need to be loved just for who we really are.
2. No amount of success, fame, education, or power can fill the human heart's need to real love.
3. Real love seems very hard to find.

SO... What IS real love? Where does real love come from? How do you find real love in real life?

Four Kinds of Love

Pseudo Love = "To Get..."

Real Love = "To Give..."

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| 1. I love you "as long as..."
you satisfy my lust. | ← | <u>Eros – Sexual Love</u>
(A Passionate Desire) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive: Proverbs 5:15-19• Negative: Proverbs 7:4-23 | → | 1. I love to please you sexually
to celebrate the intimacy
we already share. |
| 2. I love you "so that..."
I won't be alone. | ← | <u>Phileo – Friendship Love</u>
(A Strong Feeling) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive: Jonathan & David• Negative: Judas | → | 2. I love you with unbreakable
loyalty – "I've got your back." |
| 3. I love you "because..."
you enhance my worth. | ← | <u>Storge – Family Love</u>
(A Fond Affection) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-12• Negative: 2 Timothy 3:3 | → | 3. I love you just for who
you are, not what you achieve. |
| 4. I love you "if..."
you bless my life. | ← | <u>Agape – God's Love</u>
(A Willful Choice) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive: Romans 5:8-10• Negative: 1 John 4:19-21 | → | 4. I love you "no matter what!" |

Love is _____ to give another person what they need the most,
when they deserve it the least, at great personal cost.

What have we learned about real love?

1. We are _____ deeply and completely love by God. Romans 5:8
2. We must receive His love by _____ before we have the power to love Him, each other, our families, neighbors, and enemies. 1 John 4:19
3. Pseudo love promises life but _____ us and our relationships. Romans 6:23
Proverbs 14:12
4. God has a specific _____ and process for us to experience REAL love in REAL life. 1 John 4:9-11
5. Love NEVER _____! It covers our past, our faults, our mistakes, and our sins. It redeems, restores, forgives, and births new life and new relationships. 1 Corinthians 13

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

Application: After going through this message...

1. How would you define real love?
2. Where does real love come from?
3. How will you go about finding real love?
4. How will you go about giving real love?
5. How will you go about receiving real love?