

## Pastor's Weekly Devotional- February 12, 2015

### "The Power of Love"

I was reading recently an article which quoted a reliable source stating that the dating industry is a one billion dollar business each year and that the average client spends over two hundred dollars per year to find the "right person" with the intent of "living forever happily after."

Reasonable, I think, if real love is found! At the heart of the problem of love, however, is that there are two kinds of love — **God's love** called "**agape love**" and **Human love** called "**phileo love**."

"**Agape love**" is what God demonstrated when "He gave His only Son." This love is sacrificial, selfless and unilateral. This love is a promise from the Giver (God) to the receiver (Humanity) that He is committed to love you regardless of the circumstances or reciprocation. However, if this love is reciprocated, it produces a bond that is unbreakable. "Agape love" does not fail!

On the other hand, "**Phileo love**" (human love) is often based on human fondness. But, when a crisis erupts, or serious differences of opinions develop, this "love relationship" suffers and oftentimes ultimately dissolves. It is interesting that when God gives instructions for husbands to love their wives, He uses the word "agapao" rather than "phileo" (Ephesians 5:25). That kind of love continues "for better or for worse" and does not waver when circumstances change.

"**Agape love**" **commits for life**. "Phileo love" falls away when there are disagreements or differences of opinion. Which one reflects you? God's or Yours? God's love stimulates good works; causes us to honor others; produces hope and confidence; and enables us to mature and cope with the hiccups of life.

As you celebrate Valentine this weekend, be a replica of Christ's love. Ask yourself: "What is there about me that God would love me and send His Son to die on the Cross?" If you answer this question truthfully, you will discover that God's love will enable you to love others as He has loved you and continues to love you despite your flaws. (John 13:34).

Have a Happy Valentine!  
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