

Ephesians Series

Lesson #260

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Dean Bible Ministries

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How Does Love Act?

Ephesians 5:25–33; 1 Corinthians 13:4–7



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Gen. 3:15, The Aspect of the Judgment of Sin for Both the Woman and the Man

**General trend
of women**

**Gen. 3:16, “... your
desire shall be to
control your
husband,”**

Women trend
toward wanting to
be the leader

Solution: Submit
to the leadership
of the husband



**General trend
of men**

**“But he shall
domineeringly rule
over you.” [~RD]**

Men trend toward being
autocratic, as well as
abdication responsibility

Solution: Love
your wife as Christ
loved the Church

**Both reflect the core
arrogant, “me first,”
orientation of
the sin nature.**

**Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,
Eph. 5:26, “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,
Eph. 5:27, “that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.**

Eph. 5:28, “So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

Eph. 5:29, “For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church,

Eph. 5:30, “For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

Eph. 5:31, “ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’

Eph. 5:32, “This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Eph. 5:33, “Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

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Eph. 5:33, “Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so **love** his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

Initial Observations

- 1. Husbands are to love their wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her.**
- 2. Husbands ought to love their own wives as their own body.**
- 3. Illustration: no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes, i.e., husbands are to nourish and cherish their wife as Christ does the Church.**
- 4. We need to understand the mystery of Christ and the church to improve our own expression of love for our wives.**
- 5. We are to love our own wife as we love our selves.**

Context in Ephesians

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

Eph. 4:2, “with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, putting up with one another in love, [RD]

Eph. 4:3, “making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”
[RD]

ἀγάπη *agapē* fem sing dat love; the love of God for humanity, the love of Christ for the Church, the love of all believers for one another

Context in Ephesians

Eph. 4:17, “This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,”

Context in Ephesians

Eph. 4:32, “And be kind to one another, compassionate, by graciously forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. [RD]

Eph. 5:1, “Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

Eph. 5:2, “And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”

**ἀγάπη *agapē* fem sing dat
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humanity, the love of Christ
for the Church, the love of all
believers for one another**

Context in Ephesians

Eph. 5:8, “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light”

Eph. 5:15, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

Eph. 5:16, “by redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”

Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also **loved the church and gave Himself for her,**

Eph. 5:26, “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

Eph. 5:27, “that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”

Context in Ephesians

Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,”

ἀγαπάω *agapaō*
aor act indic 3 sing
to love

ἀγαπάω *agapaō* pres
act imperative 2 plur
to love

What the Bible Teaches About

Love (*Christian Love*)



The one and only acceptable starting point for defining love is the Bible and what the Bible says about God's love.

1 John 4:16, "... God is love."

1. The Old Testament (OT) speaks of God's love in terms that emphasize God's loyalty and faithfulness to His promises, especially to His people. A love not based on any merit in the object of love, but on the integrity of God who loves.

This love is characterized by a volitional determination to unflinchingly love the person, a selfless mental attitude, faithful loyalty, (Deut. 7:7–9)

Deut. 7:7, “The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples;”

Three words for love in the OT:

חַשַׁק *chashaq* qal perf 3 masc sing to attach something to someone, often to attach love to someone to love, speaks of a volitional act of attaching one's love unconditionally on the object of our love.

אָהַב *ahav* general word for both divine love and human love. Deut. 7:13

חֶסֶד *chesed*-2 lovingkindness; steadfast loyalty to a covenant, faithful, loyal love. Unconditional, immutable, eternal. (Psalm 36:7)

2. This love is demonstrated at the cross.

John 3:16, “For God loved the world in this way: He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

**ἀγαπάω *agapaō*
aor act indic 3 sing
to love**

Rom. 5:8, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

**ἀγάπη *agapē*
fem sing acc love**

Eph. 5:2, “And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”

3. This love is expected of every believer toward every other believer.

Jn. 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Jn. 13:35, “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” [NKJV]

**ἀγαπάω *agapaō*
2 plur pres act subj
to love**

**ἀγαπάω *agapaō*
aor act indic 1 sing
to love**

1 John 4:7, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”

ἀγαπάω agapaō

**2 plur pres act subj
to love**

John 4:10, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

1 John 4:11, “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

4. The mandate to the husband is an emphatic, specific reminder to him of the mandate to all believers to love one another, especially your wife.

John 15:12, “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

John 15:13, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”

John 15:17, “These things I command you, that you love one another.”

5. This love expected of a Christian husband is impossible. It is only accomplished through the fruit of the Spirit.

Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal. 5:23, “gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,”

Leadership/Authority of the husband is nothing like the ideas of leadership and authority in the world around us.

Matt. 20:25, “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.

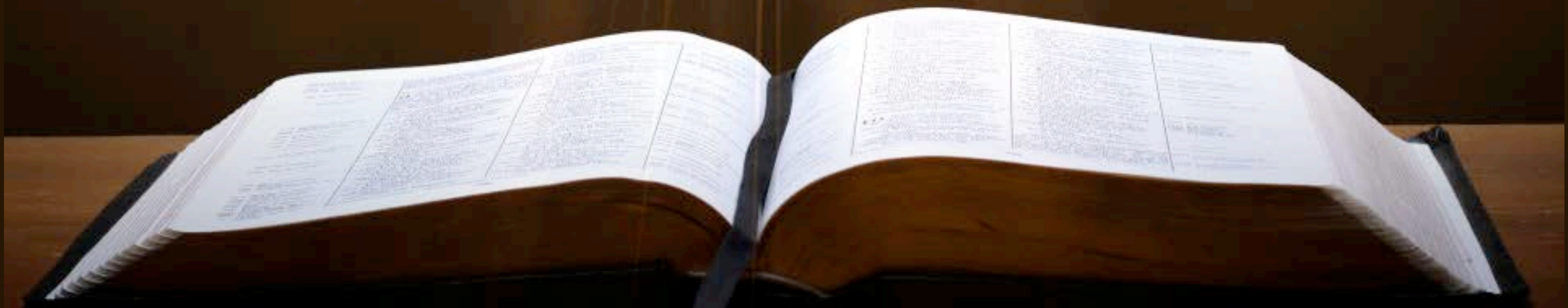
Matt. 20:26, “ ‘Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

Matt. 20:27, “ ‘And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—

Matt. 20:28, “ ‘just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’ ”

What the Bible Teaches About

The Characteristics of Love (*Christian Love*)



1 Cor. 13:4, “Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

1 Cor. 13:5, “does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;

1 Cor. 13:6, “does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

1 Cor. 13:7, “bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

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μακροθυμέω *makrothumeō*

pres act indic 3 sing

**to be patient, persistent,
persevering**

**not easily angered or
provoked**

Psa. 103:8, “The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.”

1 Thess. 5:14, “Now we challenge you, brethren, warn those who are lazy [disorderly], comfort the discouraged, uphold the spiritually weak, be patient with everyone.” [RD]

James 5:8, “You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

James 5:9, “Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!”

Matt. 18:21, “Then Peter came to Him and said, ‘Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?’

Matt. 18:22, “Jesus said to him, ‘I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.’ ”

Eph. 4:2, “with all lowliness and gentleness, with patience, by bearing with one another in love,”

Col. 1:11, “strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all endurance and patience with joy;”

Col. 3:12, “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, patience;”

Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is LOVE: joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal. 5:23, “gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

1 Cor. 13:4, “Love is patient and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;”

μακροθυμέω *makrothumeō*

pres act indic 3 sing

**to be patient, persistent,
persevering**

**not easily angered or
provoked**

**χρηστεύομαι
*chrēsteuomai***

**pres mid indic 3 sing
to be good, kind**

Col. 3:12, “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;”

Luke 6:35, “But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.”

1 Cor. 13:4, “Love is patient and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;”

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χρηστεύομαι

chrēsteuomai

pres mid indic 3 sing

to be good, kind

ζηλόω *zēloō*,

**to be zealous; jealous,
envious,**

**the illegitimate desire for what
others have as the source of
one's own happiness**

1 Cor. 13:5, “does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;”

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**ἀσχημονέω *aschemoneo*
pres act indic 3 sing
to behave improperly,
rudely**

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provoke to anger

οὐ λογίζεται τὸ κακόν,
ou logizomai to kakos
Does not think evil

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1 Cor. 13:7, “bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

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στέγω *stegō*

pres act indic 3 sing

to cover; to endure

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1 Cor. 13:7, “bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

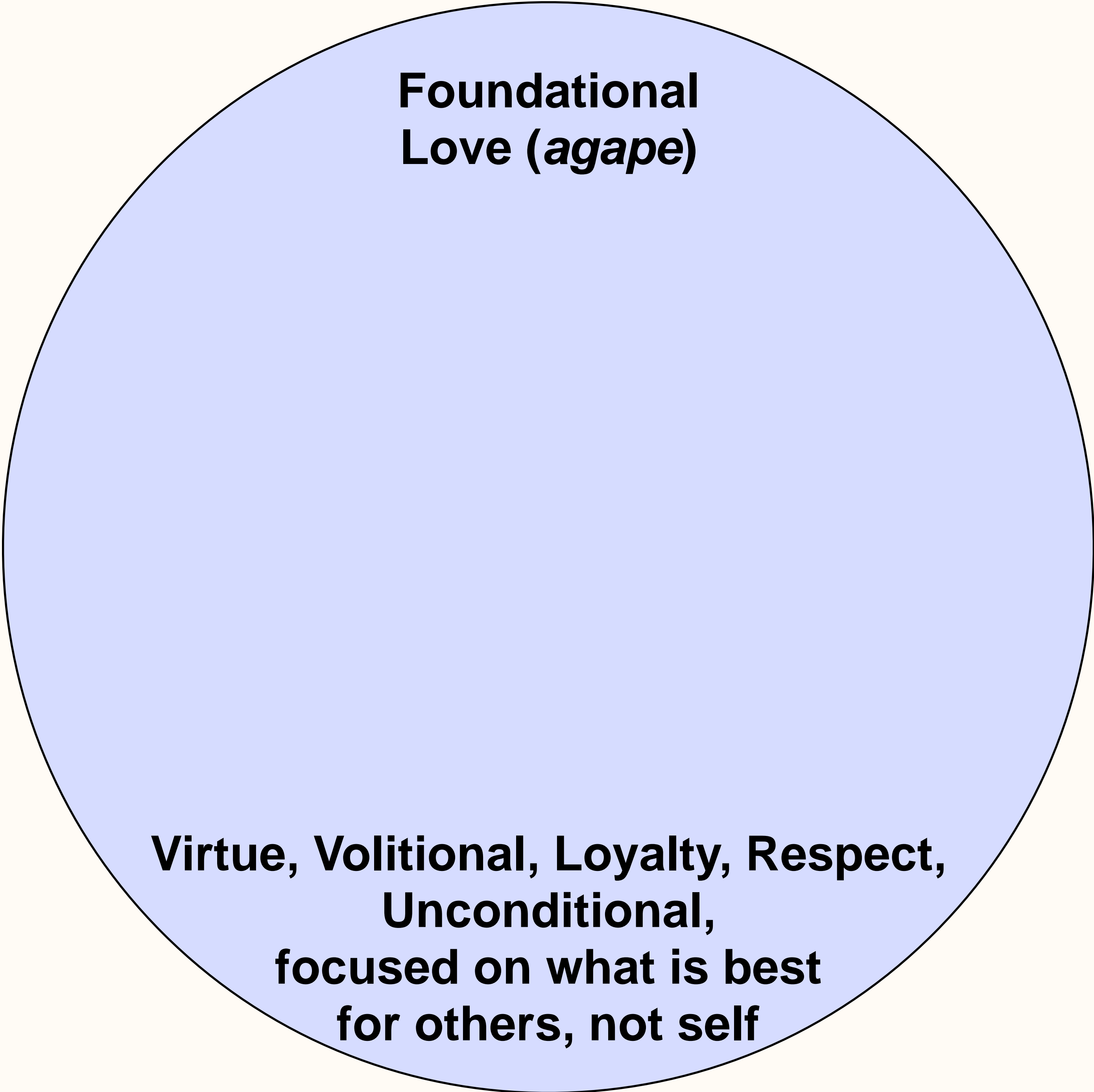
**στέγω *stegō*
pres act indic 3 sing
to cover; to endure**

**ὑπομένω *hupomenei*
pres act indic 3 sing
to persevere,
remain under the
pressure**

Affection Love
phileo

WHAT IS LOVE?

**Affection Love, friendship,
emotion**



**Foundational
Love (*agape*)**

**Virtue, Volitional, Loyalty, Respect,
Unconditional,
focused on what is best
for others, not self**

**Foundational
Love (*agape*)**

**Affection Love
*phileo***

**Affection Love,
friendship,
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Faithful, loyal, sacrificial, focused

**1 Cor. 13:4, “Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous;
love does not brag and is not arrogant,**

**1 Cor. 13:5, “does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its
own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong
suffered,”**