

“LOVE”

Love has many different faces. It has meanings that are taken in many different perspectives. For instances, when a mother says that she loves her child, she could mean that she accepts the child as is no matter what? What about when one gives up certain things of value to please another, what type of love is that? The motive behind love must be pure when it is to be considered. Lust can be seen as love, a craving desire for another, while conditional love carries attachments along with it. A sacrificial love allows one to surrender certain things for love. The ultimate love is unconditional love, which expects nothing of one regardless of what they are.

Lacking an understanding of love can be very confusing for one who has not been exposed to what love really is. With no understanding of love, one might believe that he has found love but what he discovers is lust. Lust is often described as love. Lust reveals itself as love in that it causes one to have a craving desire for what seems to be love. The picture behind that shows how one will give himself over to whatever expectations of love he thinks he is after. Therefore one has to be taught about the different expressions of love.

The socialization of love gives a good example of what love is in the beginning stages of ones learning. It gives an understanding of the outward appearance of love where the focus is on the outside rather than in the heart. Now when the heart is the focus, the invisible love, the right love, is at work. The invisible love goes beyond the physical person in that it views from the inside rather than the outside.

Another love is conditional love. Conditional love deals with placing emphasis on the love that one gives. When one places conditions on love he limits the love that

can be given or received. For instance, if one is given an ultimatum to love by asserting “I will love you **only if** you buy me a car.” ‘Only if’ is a condition that many people are accustomed to hearing. Conditional love can also be described as “bribery love,” which says to one, if you do this then I will give you this. An example of this would be a father telling each of his daughters whoever professes the greatest love for him would inherit the most. Conditional love favors certain things but it does sacrifice true love.

Sacrificial love is a love that has real meaning to it. This love causes one to give up something that is of true value. No matter what it takes, or the cost of the treasured value, the one who has sacrificial love in his heart will do what it takes to love another. For instance, when one would give up his life that another might live, he has done something that cannot be repaid. Life is precious and to give it up far exceeds a sacrifice of love. Another example of sacrificial love comes with being a parent. When one decides to become a parent there are certain things that must be considered. Those things include sacrificing time, work; out of the blue outings and leisure time. All these things lead to unconditional love.

What could one say about unconditional love? When one has unconditional love for another, he allows that love to be the only love that he dwells in for people who mean a lot to him. The love that is given unconditionally is usually selfless love, love that has no face, no color, or age. When a man and women are about to marry they vow to unconditional love. They are there for each other in sickness and in health, for richer for poorer, till death do them part. Unconditional love is the foundation that one can grow from in any atmosphere.

Love bears through all things, it believes all things and it carries hope for all things. Charity is the essence of what love really is. Charity is defined as love. Love has many different faces and actions. Once those faces and actions are identified then love can do all think all and say all when it is introduced the right way. Love is long suffering. Suffering that can be covered because of sacrificial and conditional love. Love has two directions. The first direction would be a crossroad where one road says, equity, fairplay, friendship, unity, and love. The other road says inequity, foulplay, enemies, division, or hate. Which road will it be?