PUT ON LOVE

**INTRO TEXT:** **COL. 3:14 - Love Here is different than we commonly think**

INTRO: Today’s Usage of Love might be

1. Fondness of Something or Someone – like Friendship type of love

2. Strong sexual Desire for someone

3. Primary LOVE in the NT is quite different its called Agape in the original language

I. WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT TYPE OF LOVE?

 A. Agape

 1. Active Goodwill which includes Acting in Best Interests of Others

 2. Its to be Done with the Right Motive - like Serving God

 3. It doesn’t depend on how well one is treated – **We** **Have to DECIDE to DO it**

WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT THIS TYPE OF LOVE – AGAPE?

**TEXT:** **COL. 3:12-14**

II. WHY PUT ON LOVE?

 A. GOD Expects It – **Col. 3:14**

 B. Bond of Perfection – **Col. 3:14 (glue)**

**So were going to cover what we need to do to put on love**

**IN ORDER TO PUT ON LOVE WE NEED TO KNOW:**

III. WHAT MAKES UP LOVE?

 A. **Col. 3:1-15, 12-14 PUT ON LOVE** (**sum 1-11, read 12-14**)

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III. WHAT MAKES UP LOVE?

 A. **Col. 3:1-15, 12-14 PUT ON LOVE** (**sum 1-11, read 12-14**)

 1. **LOVE** – **BOND OF PERFECTION** **(Noted last)**

* **Tender Mercies** – Kindness or Good will toward the miserable/afflicted with Desire to Relieve
* **Humility** – Modest Opinion of Self
* **Meekness** - Strength Under Control
* **Longsuffering** – Patience, Self-Restraint, Slow to Retaliate wrongs with Antagonistic people,

 (Associated with Mercy)

* **Bearing with One Another** – Put Up with
* **Forgiving** – Pardon, Let Loose of Wrong

 2. Love is what ties these together (meaning of word Bond)

 3. Context – Complete in Christ & Setting Our Mind On God

 B. **2 Peter 1:1-12, 5-7** Add to Your Faith (**READ 3-12**)

 1. **Love is** **the last one noted** (Don’t read definitions)

* + Faith – Trusting in God (Surrender & Do)
	+ Virtue – Noteworthy Thought, Feeling & Action
	+ **Knowledge** – Seeking to Know by Action
	+ **Self-Control** – Controlling One’s Will of What is Learned & Put Into Action
	+ Perseverance (Patience) – Cheerful or Hopeful endurance (Doing Good, Waiting For, Patient in Suffering)
	+ Godliness – Devout Toward God, Godly Attitude that does what is well-pleasing to God
	+ Kindness – Brotherly or Sisterly Love/Affection – Cherish Each Other
	+ Love (Agape) – Active Good-Will (Deliberate Choice) to All, Acts in Best Interest of Others

 2. These Characteristics Are Interrelated

 3. Build Upon Each Other But Separate

 C. **Gal. 5:16-26**, **22-25** Fruit of the Spirit (**read 13-14, sum 15-18 & 19-21, read 22-25**)

 1. **Love is the 1st one noted** (Don’t read definitions)

* Joy – Calm Delight (Gladness in What God Has Done, Trials, Faith)
* Peace – Tranquility (Harmony, Friendliness) with God & Man – Col 3:15 (God’s Peace Rule in Heart)
* Longsuffering – See Above
* Kindness – Useful, Helpful, Gentleness, Pleasant, easy, Gracious
* Goodness - Uprightness of Heart & Life (to Be & Be Good), Desire to Be Good (not necessarily by gentle ways)
* Faithfulness - Trusting in God (Surrender & Do)
* Gentleness/Meekness – Strength Under Control, Accepting from God without Resisting
* Self-Control - Controlling One’s Will of What is Learned & Put Into Action

 2. Context – Jewish Christians trying to Bind Circumcision so can Glory in that

 3. Law is Fulfilled with ONE Word – **Love** (Neighbor & as Yourself) – (Gal 5:14)

 D. OTHER QUALITIES

 1. (Peace – in Beg.) Grace – Goodwill, Loving Kindness, Friendly Disposition from which Kind Acts Proceed

 2. Contentment – Feel Adequate with What One Has – Phil 4:11; 1 Tim 6:6-8

 3. Thankful – Gratitude – **Col 3:15**

 E. HIGHEST CALL

 1. Perfect Love Casts Out Fear – 1 John 4:18

**IN ORDER TO PUT ON LOVE WE NEED TO KNOW:**

IV. THINGS THAT HINDER US

 A. **Gal 5:19-21**

**IN ORDER TO PUT ON LOVE WE NEED TO KNOW:**

IV. THINGS THAT HINDER US

 A. **Gal 5:19-21**

 1. Sexual Desires

 2. Uncleanness – in thought

 3. Licentiousness - Lack of Moral Restraint –Especially Sexually

 4. Idolatry/Covetousness – holding as too important – Col 3:5

 a. Selfish Ambitions

 b. Conceited – Gal 5:26

 c. Envy – 5:21 & 26

 d. Passion – Col 3:5 - Inordinate (Inappropriate/Evil) Desires

 5. Sorcery/Witchcraft – Drugs & magic together – Appeals to the Occult powers to impress the patient/applicant of the Sorcerer’s powers

 6. Hatred, Anger, Malice (ill-will and/or to hurt), Dissensions (violent arguments),

 7. Heresies (holding to opinions when it conflicts to truth)

 a. Not Fair-minded – **John 7:24**

 b. Entitlement Mindset – ex. Birthdays, Health Care, Food

 8. Drunkenness & Revelries (partying)

 9. Blasphemy – Col 3:8 – Speaking Evil of God or without Proper Respect

 10. Similar things

**IN ORDER TO PUT ON LOVE WE NEED TO KNOW:**

V. HOW DO WE LEARN ABOUT LOVE

 A. Examples

 1. Paul - Stoned- **Acts 14:19-21**

 a. How Did He Know to be Baptized? **Acts 22:16**

b. Do we try to teach our enemies? Do we do so in Love?

 2. Jesus

 a. Life of Service vs. Being Served

 b. Crucifixion

 1. Care for Mother – **John 19:26-27**

a. When we are in deep hurt, do we have concern for someone else?

 2. Care for ALL People - **Luke 23:34**

3. Someone is Criticizing Us – How do we respond?

 3. Corinthians Puffed Up & Divided – 1 Cor 12-15

 a. Do Great Things BUT Nothing without Love – **1 Cor 13:1-3**

b. We think we are greater than we really are (He’ll listen to me or I can do that better)

 1. There is always someone who can do it better

 B. What do we deserve?

 1. After we sin

 a. Eternal Torment – Matt 25:31-46

 C. What do we get? Blessings – Matt 5:45 (Sun shines on & rain falls on the Evil & Good)

 1. ALL should be considered gravy/icing on the cake - **Acts 17:23-28**

**IN ORDER TO PUT ON LOVE WE NEED TO KNOW:**

VI. HOW DO WE PUT ON LOVE

 A. Set Our Minds on it – **Col 3:2**

**IN ORDER TO PUT ON LOVE WE NEED TO KNOW:**

VI. HOW DO WE PUT ON LOVE

 A. Set Our Minds on it – **Col 3:2 (Focus on, think about & work on)**

 B. Reflect on our words and Actions – **2 Cor 13:5**

 1. Fair-Minded (not judgmental, love truth) – John 7:24

 C. Restraining our Minds & Not letting it go to places it shouldn’t

 D. Work on changing our thoughts and Actions -**2 Cor 10:4-5**

 E. Think & Act like God wants us to – **Phil 4:8-9**

 1. Hating Sin BUT Loving the person – **Rom 12:14** Bless- speak well of

 2. Responding appropriately with kindness & gentleness BUT exposing the sin – **Eph 5:11**

VII. CONCLUSION

 A. Agape Love is:

 1. Deliberate Choice – Active Goodwill

 2. Critical for Christians to have this Type of Love

 3. We need to get rid of the things that are hindering us in this Type of Love

(BASIC IDEA IS DENYING SELF & PUTTING ON CHRIST – Developing these Characteristics)

 Have you answered the call to Put on Love? - **Col 3:14**