

## Do You Love The Lord?

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

- **Intro: tone = positive (assume doing)**
  - **1 Cor. 16:22** serious, grave: if not love the Lord, accursed – doomed to destruction
  - lesson: Do You Love The Lord?
  
- **Do you love (*agape*) God with all. . . . – more than. . . . - mental commitment**
  - **Mk. 12:30** love (*agape*), all heart, all soul, all mind, all strength – every ounce of your being
  - illus.: song, All In All – is God your all in all - everything – the reason get up everyday
  
- - **Jn. 3:16; 1 Jn. 4:8-10** love (*agape*), God gave only Son, believe, saved
  - Do you love God as much as He loves you? – have you given your life to Him
  
- **important thoughts: but** not really what I want to talk about today

- **Do you love (*phileo*) God? - affectionate, emotional** – Greek words this section *phileo* or a form of
  - we are emotional, affectionate people as created by God
    - **2 Tim. 3:4** will either be *lovers of pleasures* or *lovers of God*
    - **must direct our emotions properly, toward God, else we'll direct them toward sin**
  
- - Jesus loved Lazarus (*phileo*)
  - **Jn. 11:33-36** Jesus' love (*phileo*) for Lazarus **evident when He wept** at his death, **although knew would raise from dead**
  - ***phileo* is the affection we have for others, involves our emotions**
    - *phileo* is the affectionate love a mother has for a baby, not the commanded love (*agape*) a man has for his enemies
  
- - **We must love (*phileo*) Jesus more than anyone else – even self**
  - **Matt. 10:37, 38-39** love (*phileo*) more than anyone else
  - **Do you love God more than your parents? - children? - boyfriend? - girlfriend? - spouse? - your self? - your material possession?**
  
- - **How do we properly direct our emotions toward God (Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit)?**
  - **Mk. 12:30** based on a firm commitment (*agape*) to always do what is right toward God
    - **commit our whole heart** to God, including emotions, to serve Him faithfully
    - **as taught in His word (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3-4)**
- - **illus.: Jn. 21:15-17 Jesus' three questions - Peter's commitment**
  - Jesus uses *agape* first two times, *phileo* last time
  - Peter answers all three times with *phileo*
  - **What do we learn about *agape* vs. *phileo* in a disciple's life? - controversial**
    - *agape* foundation upon which our *affections* are built – godly affections (*phileo*)
  - **Do you have a strong affectionate commitment (*phileo*) to God (Father, Jesus), based an unwavering commitment (*agape*) to obey Him?**
    - *phileo* without *agape* wrong – *agape* without *phileo* impossible (**Mk. 12:30; 1 Cor. 16:22**)

➤ **Do you love (*phileo*) the Lord more than anyone else?**

- What does it mean to love someone? (*phileo*)

- **illus.:** young people often ask, **how do you know when you really love someone** – “The One”

- **below:** thoughts regarding family love, by which we can compare our love for God

- **Matt. 10:37** must love Jesus more than family

➤ - **You long to be with people you love!**

- **illus.:** Allan, girls college, have to stay in Tampa, at home unless live on campus at FC

- **2 Cor. 5:2-3, 8** groan, long to be with the Lord

- **illus.:** **Rev. 22:20b** John, “Come, Lord Jesus.”

- **Do you long to be with the Lord in heaven? How badly do you want to be with the Lord?**

- **if you could leave earth (family) and be with Jesus right now**, would you choose to go

➤ - **You talk to people you love – learn more about them!**

- **illus.:** like to call parents, know how things are going, what doing, what’s happening

- **illus.:** like to talk to girls every day, when don’t there’s a void

- **1 Th. 5:16-17** talk to God daily, all the time – “pray without ceasing”

- **Ps. 119:105** want God to talk to us, constantly – word “lamp to my feet” - read, meditate, think

➤ - **You think about people you love, esp. when you’re apart!**

- **illus.:** close to grandmother later in life, sometimes want to pick the phone and call

- **illus.:** when Beth first starting taking girls to Indiana, summer, thought I saw them and heard them

- think about constantly, pray about all the time, can’t wait till get back – **though enjoy little peace**

- **Ps. 63:6** David, “I meditate on You in the night watches”

- **L.S.:** think about Jesus, sacrifice, esp. relating to our salvation

- **How often do you think about God? - Jesus? What they’ve done. . . . What they’re doing. . . .**

- as much as spouse, parents, school friends, boyfriend, girlfriend,

➤ - **You talk about people you love!** - because think about them all the time

- **illus.:** parent, grandparent, anxious to pull out pics and show, tell about accomplishment

- **illus.:** kids talking, “My dad. . . .” “My mom. . . .”

- **Lk. 12:8** confess Jesus before men / **Rom. 10:10** confess resulting in salvation

- **Do you talk about God? - Jesus? - what they have done for you? - confess?**

- like it? enjoy it? look for opportunities? don’t care if someone thinks you’re silly? can’t stop?

➤ - **You want to make them happy – please them – do good things for!** (people you love)

- **illus.:** spouse, child to parent, parent to child – make happy, please, give presents, give better life

- **1 Cor. 7:33-34** husband wants to please wife, wife wants to please husband

- **Do you want to please God?** - most important thing in life is pleasing God

- **Col. 1:10** please Lord, every respect

- **Do you want to give God gifts?**

- **Rom. 12:1** give self, sacrifice

- **illus.:** #335, Live For Jesus (vs. 1, chorus)

➤ - **You never want to hurt people you love!**

- **illus.:** **Eph. 5:28-29** loving husband never hurt wife, rather nourish and cherish

- **How concerned are you about hurting the Lord?**

- **Heb. 10:29 sin:** trample Jesus under foot, regard Jesus' blood as unclean, insult Spirit of grace

➤ - **You will die for people you love!**

- **Jn. 15:13 Jesus is your friend**, loves you, died for you

- **Are you Jesus' friend? Do you love Him? Have you died for Him?**

- **Jn. 15:14** lay down life in obedience to His commands

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **Do you love God** (Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit)? – mental commitment, affectionate commitment  
- more than anyone or anything else - including self

- **Do you long to be with God?**

- **Do you think about God all the time?**

- **Do you talk about God?**

- **Do you want to make God happy – please Him – do good things for Him?**

- **Do you do your best to never hurt God?**

- **Have you laid down your life for Jesus – obey His commands?**

- **inv.**