



Dear Partners,

February, 2016

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

As we prepare to celebrate the wonderful “love” holiday this month, we want to give our partners a closer look at the word “love” as it appears in the Bible. **Love was God’s idea to begin with** and while the earthly love is an expression of our love for one another, God’s Agape love is the ultimate, most selfless love that ever existed. **When we understand God’s Agape love, we can explain this wonderful, glorious, everlasting love to those around us!**

***There are three different types of love found in the Bible:***

- 1) **Eros:** Also known as “erotic love” and is it a romantic love between a man and woman. **This type of love is purely “self-benefiting” because it’s more about the “feeling”** you get from this love. Eros love is a natural love that can only succeed in the long-term if it progresses into a higher form of love such as Philos love. **Eros love often says “IF”**. I will do this or that for this person IF I get something in return.
- 2) **Philos:** Philos love is a higher type of love than Eros. **Philos love is a love based on "give-and-take", where two people benefit each other in a mutual way.** It does not necessarily have to do with just the “good” that the other person is giving. It withstands the good, the bad and the ugly without selfishly just taking, taking, taking. A romantic relationship between a man and woman must go from the Eros (the physical, selfish love) into the Philos love in order for it to withstand the strains of a long-term relationship.
- 3) **Agape: The ultimate unconditional love.** It is a love that is totally selfless, where a person gives out love to another person even if this act doesn’t benefit them in any way. **The person continues to love even though it may not be returned.** For example Agape love is most beautifully demonstrated between a mother and her child. There is nothing that the child can do to make you love them any less. This is where we get the phrase, “only a mother could love” because no matter what the child may look like, a mother will love the child unconditionally. **This type of love only comes into full completion when we are penetrated by Christ.**

While all of the above types of “love” are referred to in the Bible and all of them serve a special purpose in the specific season of one’s life, **the highest type of Agape love is not human at all.** It is God's unconditional love for us, His children. **It is divine in nature. The most important expression of this love was demonstrated when God CHOSE to give His only begotten Son to die for humanity.** It’s impossible to live out and experience Agape love genuinely without Jesus (John 15:5). That’s why He deserves to have first priority in our life and to be acknowledged in all our ways considering the price that He paid on the cross for all mankind.

It is only when we take time to study the three that we can grasp the ultimate unconditional love called Agape that God expressed when sending Jesus to die in our place. We believe that many people are perishing because no one has taken the time to explain the kind of awesome, limitless and unselfish love that God has for each and every person in this world. **The Agape love that Christ showed on the cross is so unlike any other form of love that if people were able to grasp it, their eyes would be open to just how much God LOVES this world. The Agape love that Christ has for us shows no partiality, it sees no gender, race, ethnicity, nationality or social class (Job 34:19).**

Now that we understand what God's Agape love means, here are 5 characteristics of His love found throughout Word:

- 1) God is Love (1 John 4:8)
- 2) God loved us before we loved Him (1 John 4:19, Eph. 2:4-5, Rom. 5:8)
- 3) God does not force His love on humanity; He wants us to freely accept His love (Joshua 24:15)
- 4) Because of His great love for us, God will never leave us or forsake us (Ps. 37:28, Deut. 31:6)
- 5) God's love is everlasting! (Jeremiah 31:3)

We receive reports everyday how people have been touched by the Love of God through JMM. We are humbled to know that it is ONLY through Christ's unconditional Agape love that people's lives are being transformed. You see Agape love can be expressed by us, God's children, to others around us. When we allow the love of Christ inside of us to flow out as an expression to others we can change the world! First Corinthians chapter 13 is the ultimate guide of Agape love that Christ desires for us to have toward one another. In fact, the chapter leaves us with these last words: **“Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.”**

God holds such high regard for Love that He puts it above faith and hope! Have you been penetrated by the Agape love that Christ has for you? If not, then it is no coincidence that you are reading this newsletter today. **We believe there are no accidents with God. He wants you to receive that Love** (which is actually CHRIST Himself) so that you can be assured of your inheritance in Christ Jesus (**Ephesians 1:11-14**)! Maybe your heart's desire is to truly experience this kind of love so you too can help spread the Gospel by being a hand extended together with us. **If you need someone to pray for you, please call our prayer line.** We are here for you!

**If you have been transformed by the act of Agape love that God showed by sending His Son to die for you, then won't you help us lead more souls to Him also? You may not think God can use you but we can assure you He can and He will if you let Him!**

**We know that it is ultimately God who works, heals, restores and delivers** but He works through people like you and us here at JMM. We also know that it takes finances to take the Gospel to the hopeless and hurtful world; that is why **we thank and love each and every one of you for your continued faithful support in JMM.**

\*Behind the scenes here at JMM, our work is ongoing. While we are making arrangements for our next mission trips and projects, or speaking in different churches or even during the production of our television programs, **we are consistently receiving phone calls and desperate emails from oppressed people all over the world.** Between our overseas trips and preparations for our next project, there are countless of hurting people picking up the phone or emailing us with their pleas for help. The work that God has entrusted us with does not pause because we have returned from an overseas mission or after we've wrapped up shooting our programs.

**Partners, we know it is not an easy calling but it is a necessary one.** When we leave our headquarters, we transfer our prayer line and take it with us wherever we go because we never know who may be on the other end of the line. It may be a viewer who has fallen in deep depression or someone who just lost a child, or an abused wife who was able to get out and make a desperate call for prayer, or teen who is contemplating abortion. There have been countless times when our prayer line has been a last resort for a precious soul. The phone calls pour in round the clock and because of your faithful support we are able to answer and pray with each individual that makes contact with John Militar Ministries and give them the hope of Christ. We don't want a precious person to slip through fingers.

**We believe that God will show you your part in the Kingdom; whether it's praying for us, going physically to preach the Gospel or sending us to take God's Agape love around the world with your generous support.**

**YOU have a KEY part in the Kingdom and we thank God for your obedience. Help us depopulate hell and populate heaven!**

***John & Alexandra***