

God knows your love language - part one



"...I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ...."
Ephesians 3:17-18, NIV

Would you like to experience God's love in a real, practical, tangible way? He wants that for you! Would you like to love the Lord with your whole heart, mind, soul and strength? He told us to love Him this way. The big question is how?

We were talking with some friends recently about this topic and I began to wonder if the love languages come into play in our relationship with God? In other words, do we experience God's love in the most tangible way when we find Him speaking our love language? And, do we love God the best when we do so according to our love language?

Perhaps we need to pay closer attention to our love languages as it relates to God. This week, let's talk about each one of the love languages and the way it might look in our personal relationship with the Lord.

According to Dr. Gary Chapman, author of [The Heart of the Five Love Languages](#), people express and receive love through different "languages." Dr. Chapman identifies five languages of love: Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch. I think it's clear—God speaks all five love languages fluently—and He knows the love language that each one of us speaks!

However, on the human side, while we appreciate each of the five love languages, we will usually be fluent in one or two languages. When people speak our love language, our

"love tank" gets filled up and we feel connected to others and loved in practical, experiential ways. When we love others according to the "love language" they speak, they experience our love.

What is your primary love language? Secondary? This week, we'll talk about the "love languages" and our relationship with the Lord.

This prayer from the Amplified Bible is a good one to meditate upon as we talk about love languages: *"That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God's devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it]; [That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]! (Ephesians 3:18-19, AMP)*

Let's start this series of edevos by looking at the dynamics of the love language of "quality time."

Quality Time

The person whose primary love language is quality time loves and feels loved when they are able to spend time with those they care about. Quality time is undistracted, focused time. A person whose love language is quality time will do whatever it takes to "be there" for those they love. When someone rearranges their schedule, makes a long trip or goes the extra mile to spend time with someone who speaks the "quality time" love language; they feel extremely loved and cared about and they do these same things for others.

In our relationship with God, the person who speaks "quality time" might find that they love God best and feel most loved by God when they are able to spend chunks of time with the Lord, reading His Word, praying or hanging out with Him. While this is something all of us should desire to do, it makes sense that the person who speaks "quality time" would have a stronger, consistent desire to spend quality time with the Lord—just to be together.

It's possible that the person who speaks "quality time" experiences the Lord's love in a tangible way when they are able to experience His Presence for extended periods of time. It might be sitting with the Lord and watching the sun set; getting alone in their prayer closet for quiet time of reflection and fellowship with the Lord; or going for a long walk or drive to sing, worship the Lord and listen to His voice. I wonder if Moses spoke the "quality time" love

language?

"The LORD replied, 'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' Then Moses said to him, 'If Your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that You are pleased with me and with Your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and Your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?' And the LORD said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.' Then Moses said, 'Now show me Your glory.' And the LORD said, 'I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim My name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But,' He said, 'You cannot see My face, for no one may see Me and live.' Then the LORD said, 'There is a place near Me where you may stand on a rock. When My glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove My hand and you will see My back; but My face must not be seen.'"
(Exodus 33: 14-23, NIV)

If "quality time" is your love language, why not be intentional for the next few weeks in loving God this way and "listening" for His love as you spend time with Him.

"Father, I am so glad You speak all the love languages. I love You and I know You love me. I pray that my roots go down deep into the soil of Your marvelous love and I pray that I have the power to understand how wide, how long, how high, and how deep Your love really is. In Jesus' Name. Amen."

Blessings,



Beth Jones

God knows your love language - part two



"And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in Him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love really is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God."

Ephesians 3:17-19, NLT

This week, we are talking about the relevance of the "love languages" in our personal relationship with the Lord. (Please be sure to read Monday's edevo—Part 1.)

According to Dr. Gary Chapman, author of [The Heart of the Five Love Languages](#), people express and receive love through different "languages." Dr. Chapman identifies five languages of love: Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch. Thankfully, God speaks all five love languages fluently! Not only that, He knows our individual love language!

When we are loved and when we love others according to the "love language" they speak, we experience love. On the human side, while we appreciate each of the five love languages, we will usually be fluent in one or two languages.

Let's talk about another one of the love languages—"words of affirmation"—and the way it might look in our personal relationship with the Lord.

Words of Affirmation

The person whose primary love language is "words of affirmation" loves—and feels loved—when they hear meaningful words. Words of encouragement. Meaty words. Words spoken in truthful, honest, accepting, loving and caring tones. A person whose love language is "words of affirmation" often gives positive, encouraging words to others. They look for ways to

build people up with words and they feel loved when others do the same for them.

In our relationship with God, a person who speaks "words of affirmation" would express their love to the Lord and feel close to God by speaking words to Him. Perhaps a "words person" is a person who majors in prayer, journaling and talking to the Lord. While prayer is something that all of us should desire to do, it makes sense that the person who speaks "words of affirmation" would have a consistent desire to speak words to the Lord and hear the Word of the Lord.

This person would likely have a continual internal conversation running with the Lord. From their heart they are constantly speaking to the Lord and as they spend time in the Word they are specifically listening for His voice and the words He quickens to their heart. When His Word comes off the page and lands in their heart, they feel extremely loved!

I wonder if Mary spoke the "words of affirmation" love language and found her "love tank" filled as she sat at Jesus' feet? (It's possible that her sister Martha's love language was "acts of service"—which we will talk about later.)

"Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, 'Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.' And Jesus answered and said to her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.'" (Luke 10:38-42, NKJV)

If "words of affirmation" is your love language, why not be intentional for the next few weeks in loving God this way and "listening" for His love as you spend time with Him.

"Father, I am so glad You speak all the love languages. I love You and I know You love me. I pray that my roots go down deep into the soil of Your marvelous love and I pray that I have the power to understand how wide, how long, how high, and how deep Your love really is. In Jesus' Name. Amen."

Blessings,

Beth Jones

God knows your love language - part three



"And I ask Him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you'll be able to take in with all Christians the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God."
Ephesians 3:17-19, Message

This week, we are talking about the relevance of the "love languages" in our personal relationship with the Lord.

According to Dr. Gary Chapman, author of [The Heart of the Five Love Languages](#), people express and receive love through different "languages." Dr. Chapman identifies five languages of love: Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch. When we are loved and when we love others according to the "love language" they speak, we experience love. On one hand, each person appreciates and speaks a bit of all five love languages, but we usually have one or two languages that are more dominant.

Let's talk about another one of the love languages and the way it might look in our personal relationship with the Lord.

Gifts

The person whose primary love language is "gifts" feels loved when they receive gifts from others. Big gifts. Little

gifts. Homemade gifts. Wrapped and unwrapped. Funny. Creative. Silly. Weird. Heartfelt. A gift from the heart that lets one know they are being thought of and cared for. It says, "You were on my mind and I wanted you to know you are important and loved."

A person whose love language is "gifts" often gives gifts to others. They look for ways to bless people with a token of their love and they feel loved when others do the same.

In our relationship with God, a person who speaks "gifts" would express their love to the Lord and feel close to God by bringing Him a gift of praise, song, dance, worship or perhaps they would design, build, create or craft something designed to give Him glory. They may see their life work and specific sacrifices they've made to honor Him as a gift they offer the Lord. While we should all worship the Lord in spirit and truth and honor Him by "gifting" Him our lives in big and little ways; it makes sense that the person who speaks "gifts" would have a consistent desire to do so.

This person would feel loved by the Lord when they received unexpected gifts from Him. This person would likely notice a beautiful sunrise or sunset as a "gift" from God. They would see the birth of a baby, the details of a flower and the majestic mountains as "gifts" from God. While we all appreciate receiving a gift, this person would likely sense God's love for them when someone gave them a particular gift that answered a personal desire or prayer they had made known to the Lord. Although God uses us as humans to bless others; this person would know intuitively that the Lord's love was behind a special gift.

I wonder if Jesus was trying to help us understand that God clearly speaks the love language of gifts when He said, *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"* (Matthew 7: 11-12, NKJV)

James gave us insight into this as well, *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with Whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."* (James 1: 17, NKJV)

If "gifts" is your love language, why not be intentional for the next few weeks in loving God this way and "looking" for His love as you meditate on the amazing gift He's given to you through Jesus Christ and all the good things He's made available to you in Him!

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians

9: 15, NKJV)

"Father, I am so glad You speak all the love languages. I love You and I know You love me. I pray that my roots go down deep into the soil of Your marvelous love and I pray that I have the power to understand how wide, how long, how high, and how deep Your love really is. In Jesus' Name. Amen."

Blessings,



Beth Jones

God knows
your love
language
- part four



"That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God's devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it]; [That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]!"
Ephesians 3: 18-19, AMP

This week we are talking about experiencing God's love in a real, practical, tangible way as we talk about the "love languages" and the way they relate to our personal walk

with the Lord.

We were talking with some friends recently about this topic and I began to wonder if the love languages come into play in our relationship with God? In other words, do we experience God's love in the most tangible way when we find Him speaking our love language? And, do we love God the best when we do so according to our love language?

According to Dr. Gary Chapman, author of [The Heart of the Five Love Languages](#), people express and receive love through different "languages." Dr. Chapman identifies five languages of love: Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch. Praise the Lord, God speaks all five love languages fluently!

However, on the human side, while we appreciate each of the five love languages, we will usually only be fluent in one or two languages. When people speak our love language, our "love tank" gets filled up and we feel connected to others and loved in practical, experiential ways. When we love others according to the "love language" they speak, they experience our love.

Let's look at the love language of "acts of service" today.

Acts of Service

The person whose primary love language is "acts of service" loves and feels loved when they are able to serve others and when others serve them. Acts of service include all kinds of things. Cooking breakfast. Making the bed. Fixing a flat tire. Folding the laundry. Filling up the gas tank. Cleaning the kitchen. Working behind the scenes. Running for coffee. Keeping people lifted up in prayer. Caring for the sick. Relieving a worn-out preschool mom. Helping the elderly. Lifting the load for others. This person expresses their love for others by doing things for others.

A person whose love language is "acts of service" seems to have an innate ability to recognize the things that need to be done to serve others; to relieve them and lift the load. They see and do whatever it takes to serve others. They feel loved when others do these things for them. It tells them that someone took time to think of ways to serve them and that they went beyond a great intention...they actually did it.

In our relationship with God, the person who speaks "acts of service" might find that they love God best and feel most loved by God when they are able to do things to serve Him, His cause and His people. While serving others and serving God is something all of us should do, it makes sense that

the person who speaks "acts of service" would have a stronger, consistent desire to do so and would feel a great sense of satisfaction in expressing their love this way. Perhaps, Martha spoke "acts of service" and in her case, she was so busy doing, she didn't spend time receiving like she needed.

"Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, 'Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.' And Jesus answered and said to her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.'" (Luke 10:38-42, NKJV)

It's possible that the person who speaks "acts of service" experiences the Lord's love in a tangible way when others are used of the Lord to recognize their needs and serve them. When the Lord provides for their needs, relieves their load and lifts their burdens and blesses them with good things; they are likely to feel loved and cared for by Him.

Jesus said He came for this very purpose, *"For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give My life as a ransom for many."* (Matthew 20:28, NLT)

Jesus also said there is a great reward for those who serve, *"If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor."* (John 12:26, NKJV)

If "acts of service" is your love language, why not be intentional for the next few weeks in loving God this way and "watching" for His love as He serves you in a variety of ways through a variety of people.

"Father, I am so glad You speak all of the love languages. I love You and I know You love me. I pray that my roots go down deep into the soil of Your marvelous love and I pray that I have the power to understand how wide, how long, how high, and how deep Your love really is. In Jesus' Name. Amen."

Blessings,

Beth Jones

God knows your love language - part five



"May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love...."
Ephesians 3:17, NLT

As we wrap up our series on the "love languages" and how they relate to our walk with the Lord, let's review.

We were talking with some friends recently about this topic and I began to wonder if the love languages come into play in our relationship with God? In other words, do we experience God's love in the most tangible way when we find Him speaking our love language? And, do we love God the best when we do so according to our love language? So, this week, we've been talking about each one of the love languages and the way it might look in our personal relationship with the Lord.

According to Dr. Gary Chapman, author of [The Heart of the Five Love Languages](#), people express and receive love through different "languages." Dr. Chapman identifies five languages of love: Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch. There is no doubt, God speaks all five love languages fluently!

However, on the human side, while we appreciate each of the five love languages, we will usually be fluent in one or two languages. When people speak our love language, our

"love tank" gets filled up and we feel connected to others and loved in practical, experiential ways. When we love others according to the "love language" they speak, they experience our love.

Have you determined what your primary love language is? Secondary? Let's finish our week by looking at the dynamics of the love language of "physical touch."

Physical Touch

The person whose primary love language is "physical touch" loves and feels loved when they are able to give and receive physical expressions of love. It might be a pat on the back, a long hug, kissing, holding hands, a foot massage, a tossle of the hair, squeeze on the arm and for married people, sexual relations.

A person whose love language is physical touch tends to be "touchy" with others. They are comfortable with physical contact...this is how they show their affection. When others reciprocate these things they feel loved and cared for.

In our relationship with God, the person who speaks "physical touch" might find that they love God best and feel most loved by God when they are able to spend time with God in physical ways in His physical creation. A walk in the woods...going for a run...engaging in His creation. They have a need to connect with God physically—as opposed to the person who is satisfied in God's Presence by kneeling by the bed. This person may be more demonstrative in their worship and they find it easier to lift their hands, jump, dance and shout their praises to God than those who don't speak this language.

While at some level, we all need to worship God passionately and connect with God from our heart in physical ways, it makes sense that the person who speaks "physical touch" would have a stronger, consistent desire to do so.

This person may feel God's love more personally as spiritual things are made tangible in the physical sense realm. Things like, God's Presence and those "goose-bump" moments; the manifested awareness of the Lord and sweet aroma of Christ; the sense of a "hug" from the Lord. And, at times, they may sense God's love for them through the physical expressions of love they receive from others.

I wonder if David spoke the "physical touch" love language?

"And David danced before the Lord with all his might, wearing a priestly tunic. So David and all Israel brought up

the Ark of the Lord with much shouting and blowing of trumpets." (2 Samuel 6: 14-15, NLT)

If "physical touch" is your love language, why not be intentional for the next few weeks in loving God this way and "sensing" for His love as you spend time with Him.

"Father, I am so glad You speak all the love languages. I love You and I know You love me. I pray that my roots go down deep into the soil of Your marvelous love and I pray that I have the power to understand how wide, how long, how high, and how deep Your love really is. In Jesus' Name. Amen."

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Beth Jones', with a stylized, cursive script.

Beth Jones