

Five Kinds of Love

Strong Desire - [epithumia] - strong desire of any kind. Heart set on, long for. Can be positive or negative. Most of the time translated "desire."

Romantic love [eros] - Eros is not always sensual. It includes the idea of yearning to unite. A desire to possess the beloved. It's romantic, passionate and sentimental. Often starting point toward many marriages. It spawns one to write songs, poetry about them. It has been called rapture, exquisite pleasure, tingles, so strong & so sweet it can be terrifying because it is so all-absorbing.

Family Love [storge'] It could be described as the family natural relationship affection. It is the like devotion one has to their clan type of love. It is the kind of devotion that two twins have for each other. Not matter what they stand by each other. In contrast, the world is cold and harsh but storge' offers an emotional refuge.

Friendship Love [phileo] This is best described as the relationship that has grown to a comradeship, the product or what is born because of the act of sharing and giving. It is more earned by the kind deeds of another. Nurtured by the continued practice of giving and receiving.

Selfless Love [agape'] This love is best described in 1 Cor. 13:4-7. Each of these characteristics must be worked on by each of us regardless of the other's actions. This love is first person application, period. "I" must try to do this without considering how others react to it or respond.