


PLEASE PASS THE FRUIT SALAD

What's Love Got to do With It? Pastor Joe Wright

1

GALATIANS 5:22-23 (NIV)


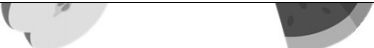
²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.



2

Q#1: Have born-again Christians been filled with The Holy Spirit?


Q#2: If that's correct, shouldn't the fruit of the spirit be evident in their lives?

3

MATTHEW 7:16-20


¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.



4

MATTHEW 7:16-20


¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.



5

GALATIANS 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.



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We treat *symptoms* rather than *root causes*.
The Bible simply calls this problem sin!

8

"A man who has never gone to school may steal from the freight car, but if he has a university education, he may steal the whole railroad!"

—Theodore Roosevelt

9

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THE FIRST AND FOREMOST INGREDIENT THAT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL IN TRANSFORMING THE HUMAN SPIRIT IS *LOVE!*

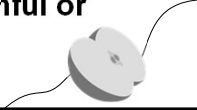
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Galatians 5:14

"The entire law is summed up in a single commandment; love your neighbor as yourself."

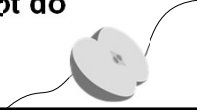
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Galatians 5:15-17
 “If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other! So I say, live by The Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of your sinful or selfish nature.”



13

Galatians 5:15-17
 “For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to The Spirit, and The Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.”



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DEFINING LOVE:

EROS
 Focused on the physical



16

WE’RE AT A POINT IN CHRISTIANITY WHERE PEOPLE DON’T CARE IF YOU CAN BACK IT UP WITH BIBLE. THEIR FEELINGS, DESIRES, AND EMOTIONS OVERRIDE WHAT SCRIPTURE SAYS. THEY DON’T FOLLOW CHRIST THEY FOLLOW SELF.




17

DEFINING LOVE:

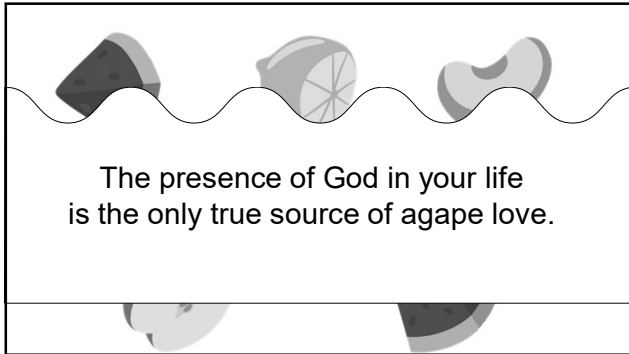
EROS Focused on the physical

PHILO Security driven and reciprocal

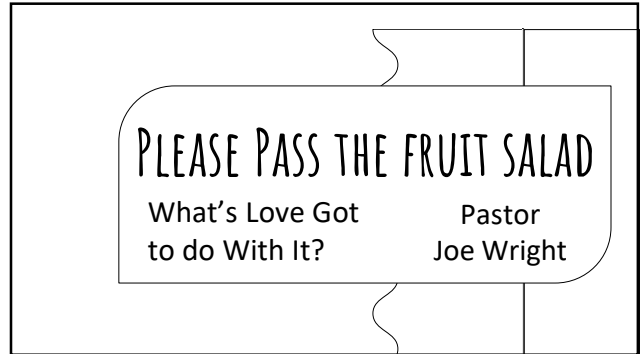
AGAPE Unconditional, spirit-driven, and sacrifice centered



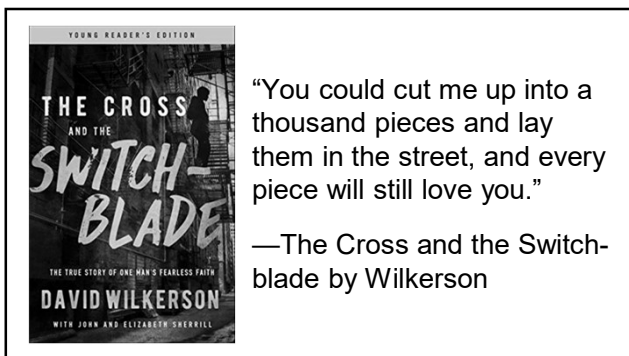
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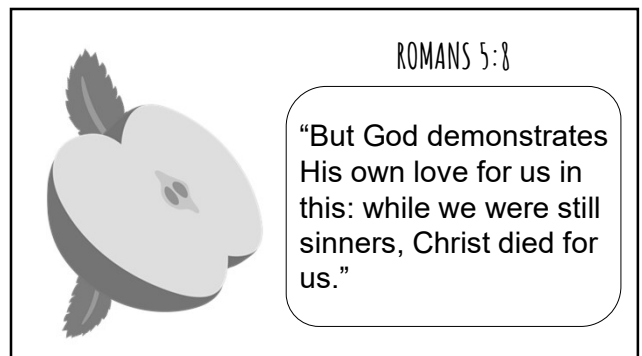
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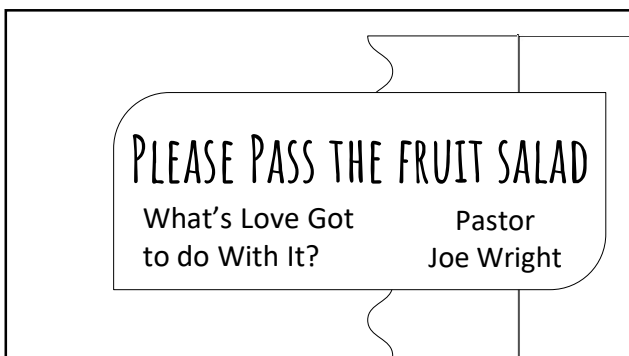
"You could cut me up into a thousand pieces and lay them in the street, and every piece will still love you."

—The Cross and the Switchblade by Wilkerson

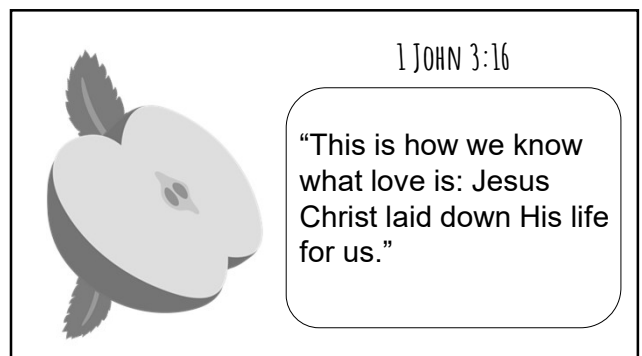
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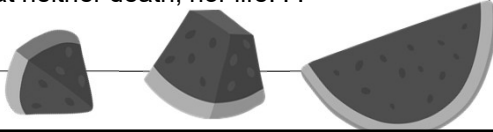
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ROMANS 8:35-39

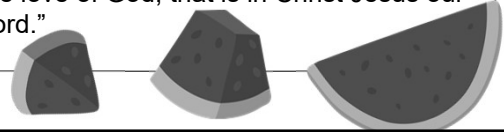
“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble, or hardship, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, for I am convinced that neither death, nor life. . .



25

ROMANS 8:35-39

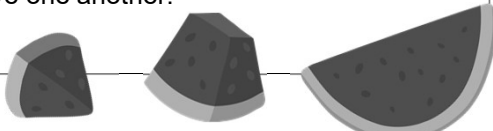
. . .neither angels, nor demons, neither the present, nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God, that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”



26

JOHN 13:34-35

“Jesus said, ‘a new command I give you: love one another! As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.’”



27

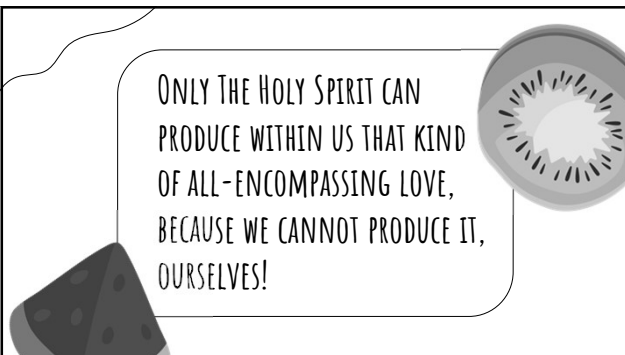
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ONLY THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN PRODUCE WITHIN US THAT KIND OF ALL-ENCOMPASSING LOVE, BECAUSE WE CANNOT PRODUCE IT, OURSELVES!



29

1 CORINTHIANS 14:1, “FOLLOW IN THE WAY OF [AGAPE] LOVE”

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14, “DO EVERYTHING IN [AGAPE] LOVE”

EPHESIANS 4:2, “SERVE ONE ANOTHER IN [AGAPE] LOVE”

EPHESIANS 5:2, “LIVE A LIFE OF [AGAPE] LOVE”

EPHESIANS 4:15, “SPEAK THE TRUTH IN [AGAPE] LOVE”




30

COLOSSIANS 3:12, "CLOTHE YOURSELF IN [AGAPE] LOVE"

1 TIMOTHY 2:22, "PURSUE THIS KIND OF [AGAPE] LOVE"

HEBREWS 10:24, "ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER IN [AGAPE] LOVE"

1 JOHN 3:18, "WE ARE NOT TO [AGAPE] LOVE ONLY IN WORDS, BUT IN ACTION, AND DEEDS"

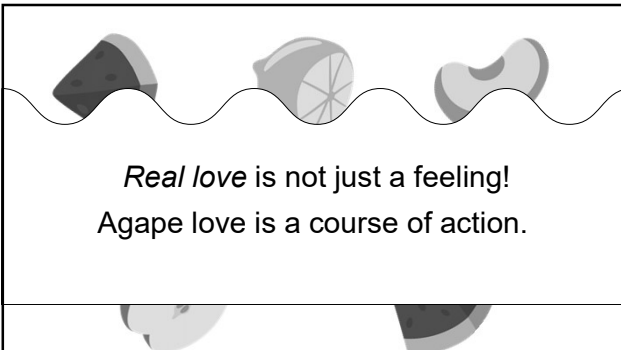


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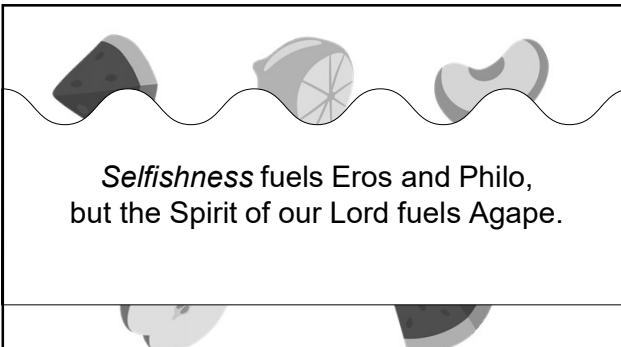
Real love is not just a feeling!
Agape love is a course of action.

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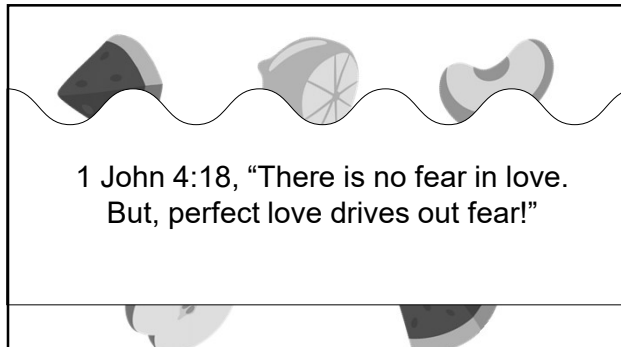
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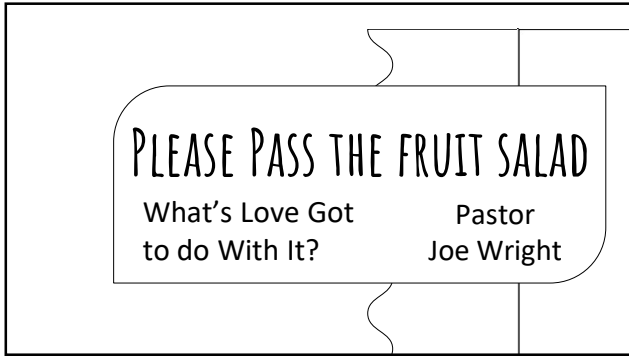
Selfishness fuels Eros and Philo,
but the Spirit of our Lord fuels Agape.

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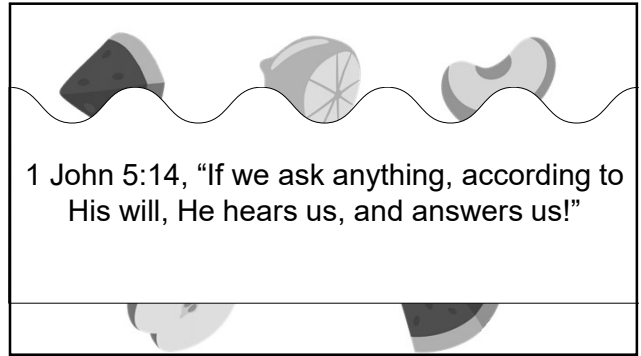


1 John 4:18, "There is no fear in love.
But, perfect love drives out fear!"

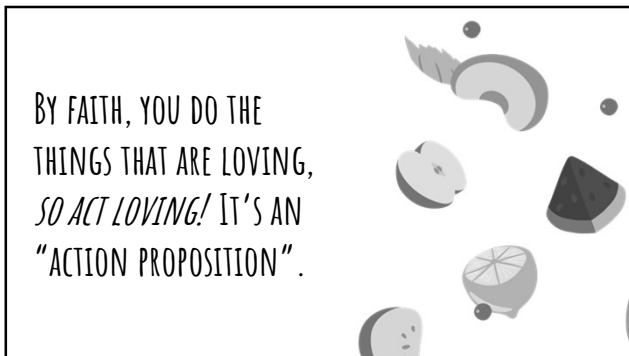
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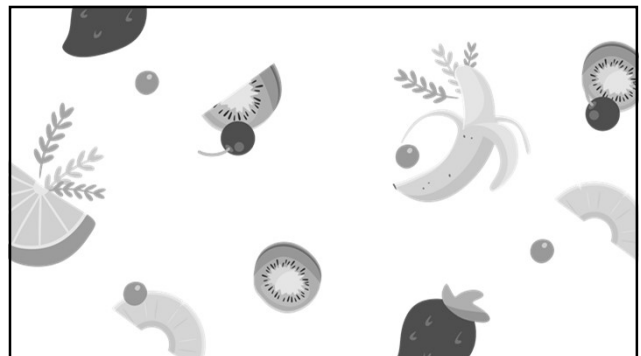
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