

## Nothing to Fear, Nothing to Prove Courageous Love

Eros: **Physical** love

Storge: **Family** love

Philia: **Deeply** Connected

Agape: **Unchanging, Self Giving** Love

*Luke 10:30-37 MSG Jesus said, "There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man. A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man's condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I'll pay you on my way back.'" "What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?" "The one who treated him kindly," the religion scholar responded. Jesus said, "Go and do the same."*

The Good Samaritan:

1. He was a **perceptive** neighbor
2. He was a **compassionate** neighbor
3. He was a **selfless** neighbor

*Jesus said, "Go and do the same."*

*1 John 3:16-18 (NIV) says, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity*

*on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”*

**1. Courageous love lays down its agendas and schedules**

*Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV) “Have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!”*

**2. Courageous love is moved to compassion**

*1 John 3:17 (NIV) “If we have material possessions and see another person in need, if we close up our hearts to that person, how can the love of God be in us?”*

**The question we can ask ourselves every night before our heads hits the pillow:**

- Was I moved with compassion today?
- Did I close up my heart today to someone who needed me?

**3. Your heart may condemn you, but God won’t**

*1 John 3:19-22 (NIV) “This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him.”*

A. Notice! It’s “our hearts” that condemn us. Not God!

B. You will never run out of love

*1 John 3:23-24 (NIV) "And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us."*