



10.19.2025

Summary

This sermon explores the practical application of agape love in modern life, challenging the cultural notion that love means accepting everything. The pastor emphasizes that true biblical love involves speaking truth while maintaining compassion, distinguishing between acceptance and agreement, and choosing to act in love regardless of emotions or political differences.

Outline

I. Introduction: The Foundation of Agape Love

- Personal testimony of learning agape love at Bible school (1998)
- The challenge of maintaining love when tested

II. Understanding What Agape Love Is NOT (1 John 3:15-18)

- Love is not the same as acceptance
- Verse 15: "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer"
- Verse 17: The question of shutting up compassion

III. The Choice to Love

- Love is a commandment, not a feeling
- You "put on love" - it's a decision
- Acting in love vs. feeling loving

IV. Practical Applications: Love vs. Acceptance

- Family relationships (dating, in-laws, son-in-law scenarios)

- Political divisions (elections, party affiliations)
- Religious differences (Islam example)
- Immigration and border issues

V. Standing for Truth While Walking in Love

- Jesus is the only way - no compromise
- Christians must identify with Christ, not political parties
- Wisdom in choosing battles (not arguing with fools)

VI. Real Love in Action

- Practical compassion while maintaining convictions

Top Points

1. ****Love is a choice, not a feeling**** - Agape love is a commandment that requires obedience regardless of emotions
2. ****Acceptance ≠ Love**** - You can love someone deeply while not accepting or agreeing with their lifestyle, beliefs, or choices
3. ****Hate in the heart equals murder**** - According to 1 John 3:15, harboring hatred makes one a murderer in God's eyes
4. ****True love tells the truth**** - If you know someone is doing wrong and don't lovingly speak truth, you don't truly love them
5. ****Don't cast pearls before swine**** - Wisdom means not arguing with predetermined opponents or wasting energy on fruitless debates
6. ****Love without action is meaningless**** - Real agape love involves practical help (feeding, supporting, meeting needs)
7. ****Political division threatens Christian unity**** - Both sides can become more political than spiritual
8. ****Jesus must come first**** - Above any religion, political view, or social pressure, Jesus is "the only way"
9. ****Wisdom in confrontation**** - You can stand for truth without becoming a fool through endless arguments

Quotations

1. "Acting in love or not acting in love has nothing to do with what you feel. It has a lot to do with how you respond or what you do."
2. "I can love you, and not accept what you do, or agree with what you do. That has nothing to do with love."

3. "The world says, you love and accept, but God says, you love and you tell the truth."
4. "By this shall all men know that you're my disciples, by the love that you have toward one another."
5. "How can Jesus stand in front of me, or next to me, and me not acknowledge Him, at the expense of offending someone?"
6. "The Bible does say this, you argue with the fool, you become a fool."