

THD-085 and 086 The Fruit of The Spirit - Part 14 - Agape-Love

“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self-control”

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commands, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.” – John 15:9-11 ESV

*“Happy are they
that hear the word of God,
and keep it.” (Luke 11:28)*

Psalms 66:18 If I perceive sin in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.

Psalms 32:5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all other unrighteousness.

I Cor 11:31 But if we judge ourselves rightly, we should not be judged.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Rom. 11:6, *"But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace."*

Gal. 2:21, *"I do not nullify the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."*

Gal. 3:24, "Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith."

1 Corinthians 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.'

John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Romans 8:29

29 For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.

*I am come that they might
have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
John 10:10*

*Marvel not [do not be surprised, astonished]
at My telling you, You must all be born anew
(from above). John 3:7*

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)
*17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new
creation; old things have passed away; behold, all
things have become new.*

Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV)

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 4:24 (NKJV)

24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

“Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete renovation of your thinking. Then you will be able to know the will of God— what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.” Romans 12:2

*For as he thinks within himself, so is he. -
Proverbs 23:7*

Without Faith it is impossible to please God - Heb. 11-6

Colossians 3:12 *Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.*

13 *Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

14 *And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

1 Cor 16:14
Let all that you do
be done
in love.

*“the fruit of the Spirit is
love,
joy,
peace,
longsuffering,
kindness,
goodness,
faithfulness,
humility,
self-control”*

- Love (Gr. *agape*, self-sacrificing affection for others)
- Joy (Gr. *chara*, deep-seated gladness regardless of circumstances)
- Peace (Gr. *eirene*, inner quietness and repose regardless of circumstances)
- Patience (Gr. *makrothymia*, forbearance even under provocation)
- Kindness (Gr. *chrestotes*, benevolence and graciousness)
- Goodness (Gr. *agathosyne*, constructive action reaching out to others)
- Faithfulness (Gr. *pistis*, reliability, trustworthiness)
- Humility (Gr. *praytes*, acquiescence to authority and consideration of others)
- Self-control (Gr. *enkrateia*, ability to master oneself)

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commands, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.” – John 15:9-11 ESV

*If you agape-love me, you will give
heed to my commandments. -
John 14:15*

Matt. 22

34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they were gathered together, 35 And one of them, an expert on the Law, testing him asked, 36 Teacher, what sort of commandment is great in the Law? 37 So he said to him: You will agape-love the Lord your God in all your heart and in all your psyche-life and in all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment.

The First and Great Command:

You will agape-love the Lord your God in all your heart and in all your psyche-life and in all your mind.

Mt. 22:39

The second is like it: You will agape-love your neighbor as yourself. 40 In these two commandments hang the law and the prophets.

The Second Command, like unto the First:

You will agape-love your neighbor as yourself.

Matt 5

44 But I say to you, be agape-loving your enemies and be praying for those persecuting you, 45 in order that you become sons of your father in the heavens.

The Third Command:

Be agape-loving your enemies and be praying for those persecuting you.

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you be agape-loving one another, just as I agape-loved you in order that you be loving one another. In this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have agape-love in one another.

The Fourth Command:

Be agape-loving one another, just as I agape-loved you.

Galatians 5:4-6

Amplified Bible (AMP)

4If you seek to be justified and declared righteous and to be given a right standing with God through the Law, you are brought to nothing and so separated (severed) from Christ. You have fallen away from grace (from God's gracious favor and unmerited blessing).

5For we, [not relying on the Law but] through the [Holy] Spirit's [help], by faith anticipate and wait for the blessing and good for which our righteousness and right standing with God [our conformity to His will in purpose, thought, and action, causes us] to hope.

6For [if we are] in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith activated and energized and expressed and working through love.

1 John 4:8
The one who does not love
does not know God,
for God is love.

John 3:16 ...“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 17:26 ...”and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

Romans 5:5 ... and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Romans 5:8 ...But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 12:9 ...Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.

Romans 13:10 ...Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Galatians 5:13-14 ...For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Ephesians 5:25 ... Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

1 John 3:14 ...We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

1 John 3:16 ...We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Matthew 5:43 “You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’
44 “But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

46 “For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?
47 “If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?”

Luke 6:31-35 ...Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

32 “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

33 “If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

34 “If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same amount.

35 “But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.

Romans 13:8-10 ...Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

9 For this, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

1 Corinthians 8:1 ...Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.

1 Corinthians 16:14 ...Let all that you do be done in love.

Ephesians 5:2 ... and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

Philippians 1:9 ... And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,

Philippians 2:2 ...make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

Colossians 2:2 ...that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself,

1 Thessalonians 4:9 ...Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;

1 Timothy 1:5 ...But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

1 Timothy 6:11 ... But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

2 Timothy 2:22 ... Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Hebrews 10:24 ...and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,

James 2:8 ...If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.

1 Peter 1:22 ...Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

1 Peter 2:17 ...1 Pet. 1:22; 1 Pet. 2:17; 1 Pet. 3:17
Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God,
honor the king.

1 Peter 4:8 ...Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

1 John 2:10 ...The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

1 John 2:9 ...The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now.

1 John 2:11 ... But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

1 John 3:11 ...For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;

1 John 3:14 ... We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

1 John 3:16-19 ... We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

17 But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?

18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

19 We will know by this that we are of the truth, and will assure our heart before Him

1 John 3:23 ...This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.

1 John 4:7 ...Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:11 ...Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:12 ...No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.

1 John 5:1 ...Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.

1 John 5:2 ...By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

Agape (Impersonal) Love

Impersonal Love is commanded of us and is described throughout the New Testament.

There are two basic facts we must understand about **Agape**, that it is a Fruit of the Spirit, and is ~~an attitude~~ a Principle stemming from a System Concept.

Remember our study of System Concepts and Principles?

System Concept:	Values, Priorities, Beliefs
Principles:	Guidelines, Rules
Program:	Decisions, Choices
Sequence:	The order of things.
Category:	Identifying actions and objects.

"Level 10:

Principles - we begin to realize that there are some conditions under which certain actions seem to work and are acceptable and other conditions under which they are not.

It is from these experiences that we set standards or guidelines and establish certain rules.

Principles initially evolve out of our many daily experiences of interacting with our surrounding environments. No matter what you do, if you have to make a decision, we do so based on our Principles. Even deciding what to eat for dinner involves comparing what we eat to a set of standards."

“Eventually, a style of living evolves out of the standards you set—a belief or value system, your own personal culture.

This evolving set of beliefs is what is called **Systems Concept**, the 11th level.

It is best described *as the way you think things ought to be*.

It includes all those values that are important to you.

“We build our own worlds from the material that is available to us, from the environments in which we find ourselves.

My **Systems Concept** is the foundation from which flows the very center of what I stand for, for what I believe in.

Thus my systems concept is formed by me and is a product of my own individual perceptual development.

We have examined the Fruit of the Spirit aspect in detail before, but, for now, we must understand that this love, (**agape**), is a Principle coming from our System Concept, not an emotion as we understand human love.

The human side of us is only familiar with 3 types of love:

- 1.) **Phileo** : affectionate, *emotional* , love; and,
- 2.) **Eros** : physical love - sexually expressed, hormonal love.
3. **Storge** - Familial, emotional love.

In order, then, to understand **Agape** , we must understand some things Principles.

It is my belief that the Bible teaches that everything about you revolves around your System Concepts and the related Principles.

(Proverbs 23:7

For as he thinks within himself, so he is. He says to you, "Eat and drink!" But his heart is not with you.

1. There are 2 Basic System Concepts in the World.
Human Viewpoint and Divine Viewpoint.

Isa 55:7-9 -

My plans aren't your plans,
nor are your ways my ways,
says the LORD.

9 Just as the heavens
are higher than the earth,
so are my ways
higher than your ways,
and my plans than your plans.)

2. Believer's are commanded to have Divine Viewpoint:

Col 3:2 - Think about the things above and not things on earth.

*2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (CEB) Our weapons that we fight with aren't human, but instead they are powered by God for the destruction of fortresses. They destroy arguments, **5** and every defense that is raised up to oppose the knowledge from God. They capture every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*

3. Since Divine Viewpoint is the Mind of Christ, we must learn doctrine to shape our own System Concept and associated Principles.

1 Cor 2:16 - **16** *Who has known the mind of the Lord, who will advise him? But we have the mind of Christ.,*

Phil 2:5 - 5 Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus:)

4. God's plan of Grace demands that we have the Divine Viewpoint (System Concepts) as our own.

(Rom 12:2 - Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is— what is good and pleasing and mature.

2 Tim 1:7 - God didn't give us a spirit that is timid but one that is powerful, loving, and self-controlled.

5. Confidence results from having the Divine System Concept as your System Concept.

2 Cor 5:1 - We know that if the tent that we live in on earth is torn down, we have a building from God. It's a house that isn't handmade, which is eternal and located in heaven.

6. Stability comes from the Divine System Concept.

Phil 4:7 - Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

2 Thess 2:2 - We don't want you to be easily confused in your mind or upset if you hear that the day of the Lord is already here, whether you hear it through some spirit, a message, or a letter supposedly from us.

7. Worldliness is Human Viewpoint (System Concept) not outward actions as some teach.

Rom 12:2 - Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is— what is good and pleasing and mature.

8. Evil is a System Concept or the result of a System Concept.

Matt 9:4 - But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said, "Why do you fill your minds with evil things?"

The Program results from the SC and its Principles.

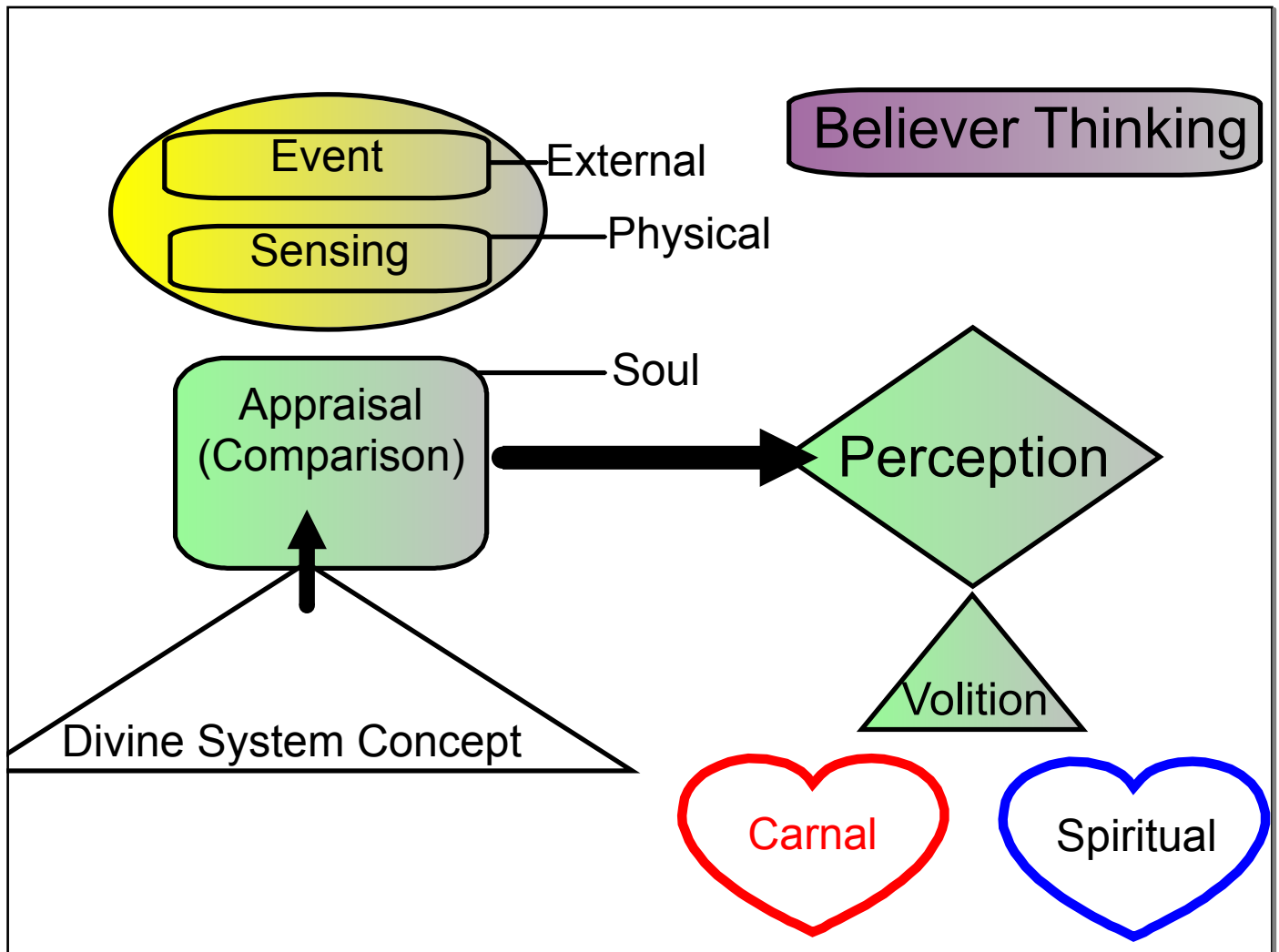
Gal 6:3 - If anyone thinks they are important when they aren't, they're fooling themselves.

9. Human System Concept produces misery.

*Prov 15:13 - A joyful heart brightens one's face,
but a troubled heart breaks the spirit.*

10. Love is a part of the Divine System Concept.

*1 Cor 13:5 - [Love] isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own
advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of
complaints,*



Divine System Concept



Principles



Programs