

Loving intellectually

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The lessons from this series:

1. [327_Introduction to the series about the family](#)
2. [591_Marriage: Its purpose](#)
3. [592_Marriage: Its permanency](#)
4. [015_The man's role in marriage](#)
5. [017_The woman's role in marriage](#)
6. [498_A wife worth more than jewels](#)
7. [244_When mommy is not home](#)
8. [597_Loving intellectually](#)
9. [598_The affectionate love](#)
10. [599_The intimate love](#)
11. [602_Communication](#)
12. [604_Problems between husband and wife](#)
13. [606_The responsibilities of parents and kids](#)
14. [608_Training our children: Education](#)
15. [609_Training our children: Chastisement](#)
16. [610_Training our children: Direction](#)
17. [612_Biblical cases of fathers and sons](#)
18. [611_The relationship between siblings](#)
19. [440_What every youth wants in reality](#)
20. [618_Courtship: Preparation for marriage](#)
21. [021_The family who is centered in Christ](#)

B. There are four types of love in the family (three between the husband and the wife):

1. Natural affection (**Romans 1:31**, KJV –“natural affection” this is for example the love between parents and their children)
2. Intellectual affection, loving rationally (sermon #597_Loving intellectually)
3. Intimate love (sermon #599, the sexual relationship between husband and wife)
4. Affectionate love (sermon #598, this sermon) it is the charm, the love found on each other

C. The objective on this sermon:

1. It is to present the nature of intellectual love and its practical application to the marriage

D. The definition:

1. Different than affectionate love which is love based on feelings, intellectual love exists independently from feelings and it always seeks the wellbeing of the person loved.
2. While the intellectual love exists on the basis of the value of the loved one, on the other hand affectionate love is based on the charm or the pleasure that is found in the loved one.

I. THE NATURE OF INTELLECTUAL LOVE

A. What is not

1. It is not a feeling or a passion
2. It is not based on something found in the other person (kindness, beauty, charm, etc.)

B. What it is

1. This love comes from the reasoning, from the intellect
2. It is based on the value of the other person
3. It seeks the wellbeing of the other person
4. It is demonstrated by action (**2 Cor. 8:8, 1 John 3:16-18**)
5. Evaluated by the sacrifice (**John 3:16; 15:12-13**)

II. APPLICATION TO A MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP

A. The husband (Ephesians 5:22-33; especially vs. 25-29)

1. It is not a passionate love or based on feelings (“as their own bodies”, vs. **28**)
2. It is not based on the charm of the other partner (“having cleansed her by the washing of water...”, vs. **26**; Jesus loved her even when dirty)
3. Seeking the wellbeing of the other:
 - a. “That He might...” (vs. **26**)
 - b. “That He might present to Himself...” (vs. **27**)
4. It is a love demonstrated by the action done to the other person (Do we know how Jesus did love the church? We know how much Christ loved the church by what He did for Her!! Vs. **25**)
5. Valued by the sacrifice (He, “gave Himself up for her”, vs. **25**)

B. The wife

1. **Titus 2:4-5**
 - a. Consider not only the phrase “to love their husbands” but what the verse says.
 - b. Let us remember that a love is known by its action
2. **Proverbs 31:10-31**
 - a. See especially verse 12
 - b. Compare verse 23 with **Proverbs 12:4**

C. Both parties (1 Cor. 13:4-7)

1. The original context: the use of the spiritual gifts (chapters **12-14**)
2. The application to marriage
3. The practice of these things will solve the great multitude of problems in marriage

III. OTHER POINTS TO CONSIDER

A. The relationship between intellectual love and affectionate love

1. If affectionate love can find “delight” in the person loved, then what is the result when intellectual love is practiced? Affectionate love!
2. Many times loving the other person, the charm, delight will result and this will produce affectionate love

B. It is a love that is demanded

1. The philosophy of today with regards to love, “you have love or you do not”
2. It is not so with the intellectual love. If I do not have it in my marriage, then I need to learn it

C. The base in a marriage

1. A very popular concept today is that romantic love, or sexual love is the only types of love that constitutes as the base for marriage.
2. The reality is this, if you do not have or practice intellectual love in a marriage, sexual love and or romantic love will eventually fail.

CONCLUSION:

A. A summary

1. Intellectual love is not a feeling or a passion
2. It does not depend upon the physical attraction or the charm of the person

3. It seeks the wellbeing of the other person
4. It is demonstrated by action and not by pure words (**1 John 3:18**)
5. It is valued by the sacrifice it makes

B. Two proverbs:

1. **Proverbs 10:12**
2. **Proverbs 15:17**

C. Invitation:

1. If a Christian, what kind of love do you have for Christ? Is it an intellectual love? A love which will show action? (**1 John 5:2-3**). Remember what Jesus say, "If you love me you will keep my commandments" (**John 14:15**), thus love is based on obedience to God's word!
2. The question therefore is, do you love God? Are you willing to keep His commandments?
3. If not a Christian do you want to love Christ?
 - a. Are you willing to keep His commandments?
 - b. The choice is yours...

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