

October 8, 2017  
**Relationships 101**  
*Love 101*  
Pastor Rick Rufenacht



1 Corinthians 13

**Love is a choice.**

John 13:1

**Love is compromise.**

1Cor 10:24

Ga 5:13

**Love is unconditional.**

Luke 6:32-25

1 Peter 4:8

**Love follows the example of Jesus.**

1 John 3:16

John 13:34

Phil 2

## LOVE

A little girl was invited for dinner at the home of her first-grade friend. The vegetable was buttered broccoli and the mother asked if she liked it. "Oh, yes," the child replied politely, "I love it!" But when the bowl of broccoli was passed, she declined to take any. The hostess said, "I thought you said you loved broccoli." The girl replied sweetly, "Oh, yes ma'am, I do, but not enough to eat it!"

The title of today's message was Love 101, love basics.

How do you think we do as people when it comes to love? What grade would you give society, the Church, or yourself in the Love 101 class?

Pastor Rick mentioned four types of love this morning.

Eros - erotic/passionate love

Phileo - brotherly love

Storge - Family love - parent to child

Agape - love God has for us - unconditional

Of these four, which do you see portrayed the most in our culture? Which one the least? Why?

As Christians, which type of love is most important for us to portray and why?

We know we are to love, yet so many times we don't. What things keep us from showing love?

What are some things that you do to show family and friends and even strangers that you love them enough?

Read: John 13:34-35, and Romans 5:8

In what ways do you see the people of God fulfilling this type of love? In what ways do you see people falling short in this area?

What does it take for us to love with Agape (unconditional) love?

Read: Eph 5:1,2 Matt 20:28 John 15:12,13

What truth about love do you find in these verses?

In today's society, how can we "live a life of love"?

What things keep us from loving more and more often?  
How can we become better at loving others?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4 - 8a

It is often said that in order to spot a counterfeit, one must study the "real deal". Paul spells out the real deal about love in these four verses.

Consider these characteristics of love.

Which is the most difficult for people in general? Why do you think that is?

Is there one characteristic that needs to be addressed more? If so, which one, and why?

Consider your own love. Is there an area where you struggle to love right now? Is there a person that is difficult for you to love?

If you feel comfortable, share with your group and have them pray that God will help you show more love.