

Agapē Love

Understanding a term by doing a good word study

1. Consider these two verses. How is this done practically? How must you be thinking? Is there a limit? What if you were a victim of a violent crime, injustice, or from ethnic supremacist / separatists?

And He said to him, “‘You shall love (**agapaō**) the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, ‘You shall love (**agapaō**) your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.” (Matt 22:37-40)

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love (**agapaō**) your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love (**agapaō**) your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, (Matt 5:43)

2. How is this done practically if a fellow Believer is extremely conservative / liberal theologically or socially? Would you know if one is a Believer?

A new commandment I give to you, that you love (**agapaō**) one another, even as I have loved (**agapaō**) you, that you also love (**agapaō**) one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love (**agapē**) for one another. (John 13:34-35)

Agapē is the love of the Father who desires that His children be with Him forever. Agapē is the love of the Son who knows He's the only means that others will know of His Father's love for them. Agapē is the love of God's children who know that everyone can be adopted by the Father Who accepts them as they are. Agapē is selfless and encourages others to grow closer to the Father. Agapē is the divine love of God's family. Agapē" recognizes its basis in holiness and requires biblical scholarship.