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## Introduction

- Last week looked at intro to life, Jesus promised is life.

### - John 10:10 (New International Version)

*<sup>10</sup>I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

- Get a CD/download if you missed it, catch up with what we are going to be looking at.  
- One of the things that we need for a full life, Jesus talked about a lot, in the next few chapters, love.

### - John 15:9-12

*<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.*

- It all begs the question, what is love?

\* Q&A: what is love, words on the screen

- Age old question, here is a take on it from Hollywood

\* Play clip from 'Anchor Man', Will Ferrell.

## Many Kinds of Love

- The bible has a lot to say about love, and many kinds of love.

- In the OT most common Hebrew words for love are *ahab*, like the English word it covered lots of uses, I love you, I love food, etc.

- But in GK, in Jesus time and NT, lots of words for different kinds of love

- *Storge* - Natural Affection, like mother and child.

- *Philia* - Affection of kindred spirits and friends

- *Eros* - The attraction of desire, sexually, but also more than that

- *Agape* - Very uncommon at the NT time, but used so much in NT to talk about God's love for us, Jesus love, and our love for each other.

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<sup>1</sup> These are my personal notes, in shorthand, and I may or may not use them when I speak, and may say things not on here.

- All of these words are about, heart, mind, feelings, attitude, action and behaving...not just a feeling.

### **What is different about Agape love?**

- Q&A: What do some of you know about Agape love, what is it, why is so different and used by Jesus and the NT writers?
- Agape is: Other forms of love are natural given by God, but messed up by us, but Agape is something special, something that is uniquely about how we are meant to live, think, believe and be, that is about God.
- Something Jesus shows us, and leads us into, a way of loving we need him for.
- The other loves lead us to selfishness, lust, obsession with friends and family...good things that get consumed. Even friends and family, I can be so into them, I become selfish, and far from agape.
- This love is so different, Paul writes about it a lot and lets us know what this love is like.

### **- 1 Corinthians 13 (New International Version)**

*<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues<sup>[a]</sup> of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames,<sup>[b]</sup> but have not love, I gain nothing.*

*<sup>4</sup>Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup>It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup>Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

*<sup>8</sup>Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup>but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.*