



# PRAYING WITH PURPOSE MINISTRIES

## Principle Of Unconditional Love

The principle of unconditional love is God's plan to keep us from failing. The AMPC Bible gives one a very good description of unconditional love—I Corinthians 13:4–8a. The paradigm (pattern) of this principle is to help one develop a proper attitude because our attitude reveals the condition of our heart; for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks (Luke 15:28–30). By functioning in this principle, one can have good success with God and man and be a winner/conqueror that is to have victory over evil circumstances. This is God's divine principle for success as indicated in I Corinthians 4:8a, "*love never fails.*" However, for one's love not to fail, that which one is committed to must be infallible, dependable, and unchanging and only God's Word meets these attributes or standards.

In order to develop a proper attitude, one must have a godly understanding of the three manifestations of love—agape, phileo, and eros, which is taught in scripture.

### I. Introduction

- A. God's plan to keep us from failing (Genesis 2:18–25; 3:15, 21)
- B. Principle works by faith (Hebrews 11:6)
- C. Cannot be fully comprehended by the natural mind (I Corinthians 2:14)
- D. Principle's benefits are spiritually discerned (I Corinthians 3:9–13)
- E. The Holy Spirit — organizer, enabler, director (John 14:26, 15:26, 6:11–14)

### II. Paradigm (Pattern): A proper attitude building principle (Luke 15:11–32)

**Attitude—position or posture (negative/positive) that one chooses in connection to how he/she feels, thinks, or acts; reflects the condition of your heart.**

- A. Agape—unconditional love of God
  - 1. attitude of God toward His Son and man (John 17:26, 3:16, 14:21)
  - 2. conveys His will to His children concerning their attitude toward each other and all man (John 13:34, I Thessalonians 3:12, I Corinthians 16:14, 2 Peter 1:7)
  - 3. expresses the essential nature of God (I John 4:8)
  - 4. spiritual love that is spiritually discerned (Romans 5:5)
  - 5. love can be known only from the actions it prompts (John 3:16)
  - 6. God's love is seen in the gift of His Son (I John 4:9–10)

- B. Phileo—tender affection, brotherly love
  - 1. visible manifestation of agape in natural realm
  - 2. Jesus came as phileo (love)
  - 3. love of Father for the Son and believer (John 5:20, 16:27)
  - 4. kindness of man to each other (Acts 28:4)
  - 5. phileo never used in a command to man to love God
- C. Eros—strictly for marriage institution
  - 1. a restricted love
  - 2. used to attract the opposite sex; the mystical union
  - 3. do not confuse eros with lust — eros is of God; lust is evil
    - a. propagation—to replenish mankind
    - b. pleasure—an expression of affection between married couples

### **III. Plan/Objective: To have Good success with God and man**

- A. Must first know God in order to love God (I John 4:6–12)
- B. Must love each other according to I Corinthians 13:4–8
- C. God’s Word is synonymous with success (Joshua 1:8)

### **IV. Purpose/Goal: To have victory over evil circumstances—winner/conqueror**

- A. A commitment to the Word of God (Hebrews 6:13–18)
  - 1. infallible
  - 2. dependable
  - 3. unchanging
- B. Stay under the authority of God’s Word—greatest act of love to show to another
- C. More than conquerors thru Christ Jesus (Romans 8: 37–39)

**The key to loving others unconditionally is to understand and accept the differences between what they are doing and who they are. (Jeremiah 29:11)**

**V. Practical Application**

- A. Examine our hearts—proper attitude toward God and man
- B. Exemplify the nine facets/traits of love
- C. Enjoy the blessing of the Lord