

DO I LOVE GOD?

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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The book, "The Five Love Languages," written by Gary Chapman, a Baptist Minister, identifies the various ways to receive love, be filled with love, and to share love to others. But first, let us recall the two greatest commandments: 1. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind." 2. "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt 22:37-39). How can we really say that we are loving God? There are five ways to express our love for Him.



The Five Love Languages:

1. WORDS OF AFFIRMATION: "Do I praise and worship God?"

- 1.1. Praising and worshipping the Lord delights Him. "You who fear the Lord! Give Praise" (Ps. 22:23). When we acknowledge Him, we are saying to Him: "Lord, I belong to you."
- 1.2. We worship the Lord alone. "Let my people go to worship me" (Exo. 7:16).
- 1.3. Obedience is better than sacrifice (1 Sam. 15:22). In the Old Testament, Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac, his son, but the Lord spared him; in exchange, he offered a ram. The Israelites offered burned offerings coupled with obedience (Lev. 3:16).
- 1.4. "I desire mercy, not sacrifice. Go, glorify the Lord in your lives" (Matt. 9:13). At the end of the mass, our mission is just beginning. We must worship the Lord by showing mercy and love to others.

2. QUALITY TIME. "Do I Spend time with God?"

It is important that we balance our life with prayer, contemplation, and listening to God.

- 2.1. Pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:7). Our prayer cascades to our daily life.
- 2.2. Part of loving God is praying to Him.

"With all prayer and supplication, pray at every opportunity in the Spirit" (Eph. 6:18).

3. RECEIVING GIFTS. "Am I grateful to God's blessings to me by being a good steward?"

3.1. Everything that we have are God's blessings (Gen 1:3).

3.2. Tithing and Stewardship

- ❖ Act of Faith. Tithing gives back to God. We are offering an act of faith and thanksgiving to the Lord. "They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed" (Deut. 16:16).
- ❖ An act of Thanksgiving: "It is right and just" (Prov. 21:3).

4. ACT OF SERVICE. "Do I serve God?"

The Lord equipped us to build up the community. It is important that we find the Ministry where we will serve. "For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve" (Mk. 10:45). "The Lord, your God, you shall worship and to him alone you serve" (Matt. 4:10).

5. PHYSICAL TOUCH. "Do I encounter Him in the Sacraments?"

5.1. In the Holy Eucharist, we embrace, receive, and touch the Lord. "For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink" (Jn. 6:55). When we receive communion, we are in touch with the Lord. Our priority is to encounter the Lord in the Holy Eucharist.

5.2 Go to Confession. In the sacrament of confession and reconciliation, we hear God telling us: "Your sins are forgiven" (Lk.7:48).

Conclusion:

These five love languages will guide us in examining ourselves if we are really loving God. Let us remember the model for loving God, Jesus Christ.

Reflection:

1. What will you do with your life to truly imitate the love of the Lord?
2. Are you ready to practice the five love languages to God and to others?

SCRIBES Ministry:

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<https://lordsflock.org/teachings/digests>

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