



RCCG OCEANIA

Relationships

FOUR DIMENSIONS OF TRUE LOVE

AT A GLANCE

BIG IDEA

Explore the four essential dimensions of love that define its true nature. Discover how passion drives pursuit, commitment demands dedication, pleasure brings joy, and sacrifice expresses the depth of love. Through biblical examples and teachings, understand how these elements are crucial for genuine relationships.

PRIMARY PASSAGES

Psalm 8

Psalm 16:11

Ephesians 5:25

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- True love must encompass passion, commitment, pleasure, and sacrifice.
- Passion is demonstrated through the pursuit of what we love.
- Commitment involves dedication and often restricts personal freedom.
- Pleasure in relationships brings joy and satisfaction.
- Sacrifice is a necessary expression of love, showing its depth.

INTRODUCTION

True love is a multifaceted concept that goes beyond mere affection. It involves a deep and abiding connection characterized by passion, commitment, pleasure, and sacrifice. These four dimensions are essential for understanding and experiencing love in its truest form. Through this study, we will explore how these elements are reflected in biblical teachings and how they can be applied in our relationships.

SCRIPTURE READING

- **Psalm 8** — Illustrates God's passion and pursuit of humanity.
- **Psalm 16:11** — Describes the pleasure dimension of love.
- **Ephesians 3:18-19** — Highlights the fullness of God's love, encompassing all dimensions.

KEY POINTS

1. PASSION AND PURSUIT — Passion is the driving force that leads to the pursuit of what we love. It is the proof of our deep affection and desire. In Psalm 8, we see God's passion for humanity, as He is mindful of us and cares for us deeply. This divine passion sets an example for how we should pursue those we love, with intentionality and fervor.

- Reflect on what you are passionate about and how it drives your actions.
- Identify ways to pursue those you love with greater intentionality.
- Consider how God's passion for humanity can inspire your relationships.

Scripture: **Psalm 8**

2. COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION — Commitment requires dedication and often involves restricting one's freedom for the sake of the relationship. It is a testament to the seriousness of love. True commitment is not swayed by circumstances but remains steadfast, reflecting a deep-rooted dedication to the well-being of the other.

- Evaluate the level of commitment in your relationships.
- Identify areas where you can demonstrate greater dedication.
- Consider the sacrifices you are willing to make for those you love.

3. PLEASURE IN LOVE — Pleasure is an essential component of love, bringing joy and satisfaction to relationships. It is the delight found in the presence of loved ones. Psalm 16:11 speaks of the joy and pleasure found in God's presence, which can be mirrored in our relationships as we find joy in being with those we love.

- Reflect on the joy and pleasure you experience in your relationships.
- Seek ways to increase the joy and satisfaction in your interactions.
- Consider how the presence of loved ones brings delight to your life.

Scripture: **Psalm 16:11**

KEY POINTS (CONT.)

4. SACRIFICE AS LOVE'S EXPRESSION — Sacrifice is a necessary expression of love, demonstrating its depth by giving up something valuable for the sake of others. Ephesians 3:18-19 highlights the fullness of God's love, serving as the ultimate example of how we should love others selflessly and sacrificially.

- Identify areas where you can practice sacrificial love.
- Reflect on the sacrifices others have made for you and express gratitude.
- Consider how Christ's sacrificial love can inspire your actions.

Scripture: Ephesians 3:18-19

GROUP DISCUSSION

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

OBSERVATION

- What examples of passion and pursuit can you find in Psalm 8?
- How does Psalm 16:11 describe the pleasure found in God's presence?
- What does Ephesians 3:18-19 teach about the fullness of God's love?

INTERPRETATION

- Why is passion important in relationships?
- How does commitment affect the dynamics of a relationship?
- In what ways does pleasure enhance love?

APPLICATION

- How can you demonstrate passion in your relationships?
- What steps can you take to show greater commitment?
- How can you cultivate more joy and pleasure in your interactions?

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for a deeper understanding of love's true nature as characterized by passion, commitment, pleasure, and sacrifice.
- Ask for the strength to demonstrate sacrificial love in relationships, following Christ's example.
- Seek guidance to cultivate joy and satisfaction in interactions with loved ones.

NEXT STEP

Reflect on how you can embody the four dimensions of love in your relationships and take practical steps to enhance them.

CONCLUSION

The four dimensions of true love—passion, commitment, pleasure, and sacrifice—are essential for building and maintaining genuine relationships. By understanding and applying these elements, we can experience love in its fullest form, reflecting the love that God has for us. Let us strive to embody these dimensions in our daily interactions, drawing inspiration from the biblical teachings that guide us.