

**OPENING SCRIPTURE:** Proverbs 18:22 (NLT)

**INTRODUCTION:** We all speak a different language when it comes to love. Some aspects of a relationship are more important and vital to one more than it is the other. Learning this in a relationship is both an adventure and work. But it is necessary! Individuals in a marriage have different complex degrees of value placed on love languages. There are primary and secondary. You have to work at discovering your own and you have to work at learning your spouses Love Language. By (Gary Chapman)

#### MAIN TEXT: Genesis 1:27-28a (NKJV)

#### OUTLINE:

I. Keeping the Love Tank Full

### A. Love Language: Words of Affirmation

- 1 Corinthians 13:4a. Love is Kind.
- Fundamental as a Christian Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)
- God's word of Affirmation for us: **1** Peter **2:9** (ESV)

#### **B. Love Language: Quality Time**

- Continue to date even after marriage.
- Turn off TV and devices and give each other listening attention. When you are watching or reading something, that has your attention.
- Spend some time together talking But check each others dump quotient.
- Ecclesiastes 3:7b a time to listen and a time to speak. Listening is as much a part of love as words of affirmation. Work on not interrupting.
- Take a walk together Take vacations together...

## C. Love Language: Receiving Gifts

- Visual symbols of love are more important to some people than others.
- It is not about the cost of the gift but the love behind it that counts.
- The gift of self put your spouse needs above your own. Be present.
- Verbalize expectations. Your home and marriage should be a safe place.
- God set in motion this expression of love ULTIMATELY when He gave the greatest gift of all! John 3:16

## D. Love Language: Acts of Service

- Do not develop or show resentment towards doing for your love. No one likes to be forced into doing things or feel they are expected with pressure. Maintain a desire to "DO" for your spouse that reflects love.
- Doing the lawn, vacuuming, washing the dishes, cleaning up behind yourself, helping out intentionally to free up time for each other.
  Examine your stereotypes of the role of a wife or husband and do not be trapped or skewed by that.
- Neither of you are a doormat; you are lovers.
- This is God's love language too. He came to serve not to be served...and He calls us to serve one another and to serve Him. 1 Peter 4:10

# E. Love Language: Physical Touch

- Out of the 5 senses the body has, touch is the most powerful. It is the only one of the 5 that is not localized to one area of the body. There are nerve receptors located all over your body.
- To the person whose primary love language is physical touch, this can make or break a relationship. Is touching done in love or hate?
- From intimacy, to the casual holding of hands, to hugs that are often, to the simple touch on the shoulder or knee to say...I love you. It speaks loud without words!
- For the spouse who has greater needs for sexual interaction: the Bible is extremely clear: 1 Corinthians 7:9 (better to get married than to burn with lust). 1 Corinthians 7:5 (Do not deny each other unless both agree for a time).
- But Touch is not all about sexual interaction. There is the gentle touch of a massage, the soft caress of a cheek, or just the loving expression of holding her when she is crying with affirming touch.

Summary: Words of Affirmation Quality Time Receiving Gifts Acts of Service Physical Touch