

Loving God

Agape - Part 3

February 11, 2024

Part 1 - You were made for love.

Part 2 - God is love.

Part 3 - Loving God

Saber vs Conocer

Knowledge → Love

Most people **saber** (know of) Jesus and kind of like Him. It's when you **conocer** Jesus (know Him personally and intimately) that you can't help but **love** Him.

Who is Jesus?

- **Jesus is sovereign**

*¹⁵Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is **supreme** over all creation, ¹⁶for **through Him God created everything** in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him and **for Him**. ¹⁷He existed before anything else, and He **holds all creation together**.” Colossians 1:15-17 (NLT)*

- **Jesus is gentle**

*²⁸Then Jesus said, ‘Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and **gentle at heart**, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.’” Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)*

- **Jesus is savior**

*⁶When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ⁷Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. ⁸But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us **while we were still sinners**.” Romans 5:6-8 (NLT)*

*¹⁶For God so **agapē** the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever **believes** in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16-17 (NIV)*

*³⁷‘You must **agapē** the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment.” Matthew 22:37-38 (NLT)*

How do we agapē God?

- **Know (conocer, not saber) Jesus.**
 - **Love is spelled T-I-M-E.**
- **Live According to His commands**
 - *“If you **agapē** me, **obey** my commandments.”* John 14:15 (NLT)
 - (John 14:23; 1 John 5:3; 2 John 1:6; Psalm 40:8)
- **Surrender and submit our entire life to Him.**
 - *“²⁴If any of you wants to be my follower, you must **give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.** ²⁵If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.”* Matthew 16:24-25 (NLT)
 - **We must die to self before we can live for Him.**

*“³⁷You must **agapē** the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹A second is equally important ... ”* Matthew 22:37-39 (NLT)