

Love is a Verb! **Loving with the 5 Love Languages**

Love is a verb, an action oriented activity that is full of great emotion, expectation and action. You can say “I love you” and never act loving toward someone- is this really love? For many people, after the “new relationship energy” subsides and life ‘sets in’ the feelings of love, romance, of feeling loved and loving fade into the background. The man or woman that was once falling over in love with you seems to forget about ‘the little things’ and sometimes the big things.

Loving and being loved are one of our most basic needs. Loving ourselves, sharing our love with others and receiving love are vital to our lives. We are social beings! We have an innate desire to love and be loved!

In 1996 Gary Chapman wrote: “The 5 Love Languages” in which he describes how each of us has our own specific love language/s. I have taken excerpts from his workbook and provided them for you here along with a link to his website where you can download for free his amazing material for your own practice.

From Gary Chapman’s Workbook:

WHAT HAPPENS TO LOVE AFTER THE WEDDING?

Because we give and receive love differently, keeping love alive in our marriages is hard work. If we don’t understand how our spouse receives love, our marriages may dry up and we won’t understand why. We need to understand each other’s primary way of receiving love.

The 5 Love Languages are:

- Words of Affirmation
- Quality Time
- Receiving Gifts
- Acts of Service
- Physical Touch

LOVE LANGUAGE #1: Words of Affirmation

Compliments, words of encouragement, and requests rather than demands all affirm the self-worth of your spouse. They create intimacy.

LOVE LANGUAGE #2: Quality Time

Spending quality time together through sharing, listening, and participating in joint meaningful activities communicates that we truly care for and enjoy each other.

LOVE LANGUAGE #3: Receiving Gifts

Gifts are visual symbols of love, whether they are items you purchased or made, or are simply your own presence made available to your spouse. Gifts demonstrate that you care, and they represent the value of the relationship.

LOVE LANGUAGE #4: Acts of Service

Criticism of your spouse's failure to do things for you may be an indication that "acts of service" is your primary love language. Acts of service should never be coerced but should be freely given and received, and completed as requested.

LOVE LANGUAGE #5: Physical Touch

Physical touch, as a gesture of love, reaches to the depths of our being. As a love language, it is a powerful form of communication from the smallest touch on the shoulder to the most passionate kiss.

*Each one of us has our own specific love language.
Is your relationship important enough for you to learn theirs?*

LOVE IS A CHOICE & LOVE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

Choosing to love is where to start; choosing to love in the language of our spouse comes in the choice of the actions. And folks, there are many benefits. It can help heal past wounds and provide a sense of security, self-worth, and significance.

Excerpts from Gary Chapman's website: <http://www.fivelovelanguages.com/freeguides.html>

Is Loving simply “doing things” then? Loving is Much More!

Loving does have inherent in it's actions certain energies. Yes, you are 100% responsible here... it takes effort...and it is SO well worth it!

I use the below description of loving as my guide, I invite you to try it on... and then relish in your discoveries!.

Real love creates connection and intimacy and is deeply fulfilling. When you are full of the love of self, you set down the demand of love and are free to give and receive love from preference. Loving includes the 7 Actions of Loving (below) which produce the 7 States of Being Loved.

7 Actions of Loving

1. Giving
2. Responding
3. Respecting
4. Knowing
5. Humility to be Intimate
6. Courage of Commitment
7. Caring

to Produce

7 States of Being Loved

1. Safety & Security
2. Pleasure
3. Honesty
4. Trust
5. Reduced fear of loss
6. Experience of care & intimacy
7. Wonder of being known

Jim Accetta, Truly Human Coaching

www.TrulyHumanCoaching.com



Endnote:

PS: although Gary's perspective is laced with a "Christian" tinge, I neither support nor oppose his opinions, rather, I just leave that part out of my work. My apology to any of you who may be offended by such a perspective. The 5 Love Languages exist for us humans... and that's good enough for me!

I DO support both the Lucid Living programs (www.lucidliving.net) and the work of Lazaris (www.lazaris.com)

Having relationship issues that are getting too tough to handle? Contact me jim@trulyhumancoaching.com for a free relationship consultation and get things back on track!

Jim Accetta, Truly Human Coaching
www.TrulyHumanCoaching.com