

The Types of Love: Confusing Love

My Thoughts...

Challenge: Be filled with God's love and his provision. Be fully satisfied.

Problem: We are in a culture that is broken. Beginning in the family, many people live in environments of neglect, strife or at times, **abuse**. Because of these things the image of God is tainted in people's minds and their self-perception is often marred at best. We were made to give and **receive** love. When there is an absence of healthy love coming our way, we turn to **substitutes** to fulfill our most basic needs.

Where did we go wrong?: Romans 1:18-32

When we lack the proper foundations of Christ-centered and ordained love in our lives we attempt to replace things with that which is not of God and is thus **destructive**.

We see these represented today in such things as:

1. Promiscuity
2. Homosexuality
3. Addictions
4. Gangs
5. Flirtations and Teases

Triggers to the Confusion:

1. A void of a Healthy **Parental** Relationship acting as the Foundation for **Clarity** and **Stability**
2. **Violations** or Trauma
3. A poor self-image
4. Starvation for Proper Love
5. Increase of Media and Propaganda saying Perversions are Acceptable

"That which is tolerated by one generation is accepted by the next and embraced by the third." –John Wesley ref. Ephesians 4:17-24

The Solution: ref. Colossians 3:9-11

Rediscover God's design for healthy relationships. Go to Jesus for **healing**. Mend broken relationships. Give yourself openly to those relationships that will provide **health**

How do we help in the midst of the fray?:

We minister **Grace and Truth** ref. John 1:17

Proper Definition of Tolerance: Loving people in the midst of their sin. Helping them come to the truth that they might find true life in Jesus
ref. Titus 2:11-14

Discussion Questions:

1. Where do you find the love of God most clearly demonstrated in your life?
2. Have there been substitutes that you've turned to trying to fulfill a void in your love-tank?
3. What avenues of receiving love need to be realigned in your life to experience God's pleasure and your fulfillment?