



DATE	February 11, 2018
SPEAKER	Jared Petty
TITLE	Agape
SERIES	Whether you're a newlywed or celebrating your golden anniversary, you've probably come to realize that a good marriage requires hard work. Let's talk about what people with healthy marriages know and do to keep their relationship strong.

Maturing in the Christian life is not a single act, a single sin, or single good deed. It is the pattern and practice of our life. Ephesians 5:21 quite plainly, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." That's pretty clear. The apostle Paul was writing to believers in the church at Ephesus and all believers everywhere. He expected all of us to have the heart of a servant and put first the needs of others. This is highlighted in the guidance given for Godly marriage.

1. What does Paul mean by "imitators"? Give examples of habits (good or bad) picked up by children.
2. What do you remember about this TV families and marriages? The Bradys? The cleavers? Modern TV families?
3. What three vices are mentioned here? Why were these chosen?
4. What does the fruitless/darkness image represent? (v 11-13) Compare with John 3:19-21.
5. As a believer in Christ, how often do you seriously reflect on your behavior in all spheres of life as becoming of your Christian calling?
6. What kind of reputation do you have 1) at home, 2) in the church, 3) among your neighbors, 4) with your co-workers or schoolmates? Are you considered loving and friendly, or a complainer and hard to get along with?
7. What encouragement does Romans 5:8 offer to those who feel God loves us less when we fail?
8. Have you been a recipient of agape love? Did it change your perspective of that person or the situation?
9. What are the 4 ways were we given in the sermon to walk in agape love?

When we learn to set our minds on God's affection, we have a greater ability to overcome sin. Instead of indulging fleshly desires, we allow His Spirit to guide us (Romans 8:5).