

# SERMON STUDY GUIDE

## ALL YOU NEED (H)IS LOVE

"Storge Love" | February 9, 2025

Scripture Passages: Romans 12:10, Exodus 20:12, 1 Timothy 5:8

### Intro

Love takes many forms, and in Greek, one of the four major types of love is Storge, which refers to familial love—the deep affection between parents and children, siblings, and close family bonds.

- What does Storge love look like in your family?
- Have you ever experienced unconditional love from a family member? How did it impact you?

### Study and Reflection

Romans 12:10 (NIV): "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

Storge love is often overlooked because it is expected, yet it plays a crucial role in our emotional and spiritual development.

### Key Aspects of Storge Love:

#### 1. It Is Natural and Protective

- Just as a parent instinctively protects their child, God has placed familial love in our hearts for security and growth.
- Exodus 20:12: "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."
- Reflection: How have you seen this protective love demonstrated in your life?

#### 2. It Is Sacrificial

- True familial love is about sacrifice—parents for children, siblings for one another.
- 1 Timothy 5:8: "Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."
- Reflection: In what ways have you sacrificed for family, or how has someone sacrificed for you?

#### 3. It Requires Forgiveness and Grace

- Family relationships can be difficult, but Storge love means offering grace.
- Joseph forgiving his brothers in Genesis 50:20 is a prime example of familial love overcoming betrayal.
- Reflection: Is there a family relationship in your life that needs grace and reconciliation?

### Application

Storge love shapes how we experience relationships beyond our family. As believers, we are called to extend this kind of love to the family of faith.

- Romans 12:10 calls us to be devoted to one another as a spiritual family.
- The church should reflect this love by caring for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

## **Group Discussion Questions:**

1. How has Storge love impacted your spiritual journey?
2. What are some practical ways to show sacrificial love within your family or friend group?
3. Are there areas where you need to extend grace and forgiveness to a family member?
4. How can we as a church family practice Storge love more effectively?

## **Reflection and Prayer**

- Thank God for the gift of family and the love you have received.
- Ask Him for the strength to love unconditionally, even when it is difficult.
- Pray for families that are struggling and for healing in broken relationships.

## **Resources for Further Study:**

- *The 5 Love Languages* by Gary Chapman
- *Boundaries* by Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr. John Townsend
- *The Blessing* by John Trent & Gary Smalley