

Rom. 6:1-6; Phil. 1-3

**3 Steps to Victorious Christian
Living**

The Pattern of Agape Love

- 1. Going to the highest of heights: Died with Christ, buried together with Christ, participants in the glory and power of His resurrection (6:3-4), which we bring into the present through believing and becoming one with Paul's proclamation of the Gospel (6:5) ...**
- 2. We must always also keep in mind that we were also joined to the crucified Christ becoming identified as His crucified people (6:6).**
- 3. This means that today we live following the mindset of Christ that led Him to His death, even the death of the Cross (Phil. 2:5-8).**

The Pattern of Agape Love

5. Height --- Depth --- Height

He was in the form of God/equal to God:

He became the form of a servant/likeness of human

He humbled Himself and became obedient,

To go to death, even the death of the Cross.

God exalted Him above all.

6. Likewise believers, who are positionally in the highest of heights in Christ, live our lives down here on this sin-cursed, death-decaying earth, going down to the lowest of lowest to serve God by serving others, sharing our crucified Christ who was raised from the dead with others.

The Pattern of Agape Love

7. Although --- Not --- But

Christ's pattern of AGAPE LOVE looks like this:

- a. Although: Christ possessed status of being God.
- b. Not: He didn't consider it something to be grasped for Himself
- c. But: Something to be used in a self-giving way for the advantage of others.
 1. He made Himself of no reputation, took form of servant by coming in the likeness of humanity.
 2. He was found in human form, humbled Himself unto death, even the death of the Cross.

The Pattern of Agape Love

8. This is the mindset for the whole Body of Christ (Phil. 2:1-5):
 - a. Although we have been drawn into the life of the Triune God —Christ's consolation, the Father's love at the Cross and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit ...
 - b. Do Not use this status for selfish ambition and own interest ...
 - c. But in humility regard others better than self and the interests of others.
 - d. We are to cultivate this mindset.

The Pattern of Agape Love

9. This is the mindset the Apostle Paul cultivated (Phil. 1:20-26)
 - a. Although my status in Christ robs death of its victory, would relieve me of my suffering and would cause the Gospel to advance (as my imprisonment has...
 - b. I will not cling to those things ...
 - c. But will plan on staying alive to minister those things you need to further your rejoicing.

The Pattern of Agape Love

10. This is the MINDSET Timothy had (Phil. 2:19-24):

- a. Although Paul needed Timothy and Timothy wanted to minister to Paul ...**
- b. They did not SEEK THEIR OWN THINGS (2:4) ...**
- c. But the things of Christ, the Gospel and the Philippians.**

11. This is the mindset Epaphroditus had (Phil. 2:25-30).

- a. Although he was Paul's fellow laborer and soldier ...**
- b. He didn't consider his own things, even his own life ...**
- c. But served the Philippians EVEN UNTO DEATH (2:8) ...**

The Pattern of Agape Love

- 12. These are the types of servants the Philippians should hold in reputation.**

- 13. This is the mindset Paul wanted Euodias and Syntyche to assume. (Phil. 4:1)**
 - They were not to seek their own things but the things of the other.**

- 14. This super-abounding love is what brings God praise and glory on the Day of Christ, and it is NEVER associated with sin and its power. (Phil. 1:9-11)**