

STRENGTH 7: LOVE

BUILT FOR IMPACT SERIES

*For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; **and to mutual affection, love.** For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. – 2 Peter 1:5-8*

THE FUEL OF IMPACT

We all want to make an impact. But Peter makes it clear — without *love*, all the grit, wisdom, self-control, and perseverance in the world won't amount to much.

Not just any love. Not surface-level affirmation. Not sentimentality.

The kind of love he ends with is *agape* — selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love. It's the love that stays. That gives. That keeps showing up when it's inconvenient, unreturned, or unseen.

If you want to be the kind of man God can use — in the workplace, at home, in your city — agape love isn't optional. It's the fuel that makes all the other virtues matter.

AGAPE ISN'T WEAK – IT'S WEAPONIZED GRACE

Agape love is the same kind of love God shows us — love that sacrifices, forgives, and serves.

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.” – John 15:13

“Put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” – Colossians 3:14

When you love like Jesus, your life becomes a weapon against despair, division, and apathy. You become a man people can trust — not because you're impressive, but because your love has weight.

AT WORK: LOVE SHOWS UP WHEN IT'S NOT REQUIRED

Agape love shows up in the workplace when:

- You choose grace over gossip.
- You mentor the younger guy with no strings attached.
- You use your platform to protect people — not just promote yourself.

- You give away opportunities because someone else needs them more.

It's not soft. It's sacrificial leadership. And it's rare.

Agape love looks like taking the hit to protect someone else's future. It's staying late to help when no one notices. It's choosing to speak life when tearing down would be easier.

MILLARD FULLER — THE MILLIONAIRE WHO STEPPED INTO THE GAP

Millard Fuller made his first million by age 29. Smart. Driven. Successful by every metric. But his marriage was unraveling, and deep down, so was his soul. So he walked away from it all.

He and his wife gave away their wealth and asked a simple question:

“What would it look like to use our business experience to love people — not profit from them?”

That question birthed Habitat for Humanity.

Fuller didn't just write checks. He showed up. He worked alongside the families. He built homes, but more importantly — he built dignity. And he did it without expecting anything in return.

He said, “For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other.”

That's agape.

And that's what it looks like when a businessman chooses love over legacy — and still leaves one.

LOVE CAN'T LOVE DEEPLY WITHOUT LIVING CLOSE

Agape love doesn't grow in isolation. You learn it in community — when your patience is tested, your time is stretched, and your comfort zones are shattered.

Brotherhood is where love becomes more than a concept — it becomes a *practice*.

You don't become a man of impact by working harder. You become one by *loving deeper* — through conflict, disappointment, sacrifice, and service.

“Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” — 1 John 3:18

CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

- Q. Who has God placed in your path that you've overlooked because they can't give you anything in return?
- Q. Where are you holding back love because it's costly or inconvenient?
- Q. What would agape love look like in your leadership this week?

SCRIPTURAL CROSS-REFERENCES

- 1 Corinthians 13 – Without love, everything else is just noise.
- Romans 12:9–10 – *"Love must be sincere... Honor one another above yourselves."*
- 1 John 4:7–12 – *"This is how God showed His love among us..."*

PRAYER

Jesus, teach me to love like You — not just when it's easy or admired, but when it's hard and hidden. Give me eyes to see who needs Your love today, and the courage to act, not just feel.

TAKEAWAY SUMMARY

Agape love is the mark of a transformed man. It's not what makes you impressive — it's what makes you *impactful*. When you lead with love, people feel the presence of Christ — not because you said His name, but because you lived His heart.

THIS WEEK'S ACTION STEP

Find someone in your workplace, family, or community who can't repay you. Do something sacrificial and intentional for their good. Don't broadcast it. Just obey — and let God multiply the impact.

LOVE

Seeking the good of others above self-interest. Leading with humility, acting with compassion, and giving even when it costs you — because people matter more than performance.