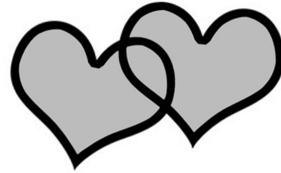


True Biblical Love is Giving, Not Getting

Acts 20:24-35



Another pagan and unbiblical concept of love is *the Playboy philosophy of love*: “In the Playboy philosophy, love is getting; it means getting what one can out of another person, using the other person as an object for love. It means grasping and holding and satisfying oneself by using another. And when he is through with that person, well fine, she’s been used up. That’s it. When there is no more nectar in the flower, the bee must flit to the next, and the next, and then to the one after that. Hollywood has taught this too, not only by film but also by the way in which so many of the stars themselves have been notorious flower flitters” (J. Adams).

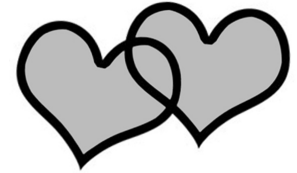
Playboy emphasizes sex, but the basic philosophy extends into all human relationships. The life of self (living for self, pleasing self, fulfilling the desires of self, putting self before others) is based upon the sinful proposition that it is *more blessed to receive than to give*, the exact opposite of what our Lord taught (Acts 20:35). Is true love concerned with getting or is it concerned with giving?

Consider the following: “For God so loved the world that **He gave...**” (John 3:16). “I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and **gave Himself** for me” (Gal. 2:20). “Walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and **hath given Himself** for us” (Eph. 5:2). “Even as Christ loved the church and **gave Himself** for it” (Eph. 5:25). “If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, **give him** drink (Rom. 12:20). **True love** is primarily concerned with giving! Even if we do not feel like it, we are to give ourselves for the benefit of the one that we choose to love. We want that person’s highest and best!

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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