

The Engagement Project | Tour Three | 10.17.2021
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<https://www.deltackett.com/what-is-engagement-project>

Dr. Del Tackett is our Tour Guide through The Engagement Project. This Go Deeper is a Study Guide of key points and questions from Tour Three-- this includes both thoughts and questions presented by Dr. Del Tackett, as well as additional questions to go along with this Tour. The verses throughout the Study Guide are from Tour Three to be used for group/family discussion and to have them easily accessible for continued study, reminders and producing fruit of your own.

Tour Three Redemption--Heart Of God.

God has come and redeemed us from a world of darkness. First, Dr. Del Tackett takes us back to the garden. God made the garden and everything was flourishing--as He planned. There was NO death until The Fall. Now, everything is pulling towards death.

Dr. Del Tackett gives an example of a time he needed to tell his father of a mistake he made.

- Have you ever had to tell someone about a mistake you made? (Teacher, Parent, Boss *NOT GOD*)
 - How did you feel while waiting to speak to them?
 - What was the person's response?
 - How did you feel after?
- Have you ever told God about a mistake you made?
 - How did you feel before telling Him?
 - How did you feel while speaking to God--and telling Him about your mistake(s)?
 - What was His response?
 - How did you feel after speaking to God?

Adam and Eve had to admit their mistake to God (**Genesis 3:15**). What was God's reaction?

Dr. Del Tackett tells us God did something surprising. He could have wiped everything away and started from scratch. Instead, He breathed a promise. This is referred to as Pruto-Evangel--the first time "The Good News" was presented. He tells us Satan has a seedline, and the Messiah has a seeline and they are at war. The promise was in the seed and He protected it until **Galatians 4:4**.

This is where we find what Dr. Del Tackett calls the "Crown Jewel" in the nature of God. We read in **John 3:16-17** God sends--His greatest ultimate send--His son. Why does He send? He sent His son Jesus because He LOVES us--and wants to save us. **1 John 4:8** "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." The Crown Jewel is "God is Love".

- What was your reaction to "The Crown Jewel?"
- What is the meaning of love to you?
 - Who do you love? Why?
 - What do you love? Why?
- Does the word *love* have any negative emotions for you (broken, twisted, over used, unreliable, shallow)?

Dr. Del Tackett says often we love something or someone because they enhance our script and make us feel good.

- What do we do when these things/people no longer enhance our script or make us feel good? Do you get rid of it or find something new?
- Is that really love?

Words are important. God speaks through words. So many of the words that have been unchanging and standard are now being twisted and misconstrued to fit different views or agendas (examples: marriage, male, female). We know God gives words of life and eternal life--**John 6:68** "Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. " We know the enemy turns words of life into words of death--so it is critical we know God's Word--The Truth.

- What are some words that are being twisted?
- What are some of the complications from the way words are changing?

Dr. Del Tackett shares “Two Great Themes” in scripture--Truth and Love. They are intertwined meaning you cannot take them apart without losing them both. The problem arises when we try to share truth without love, and love without truth. This is not true love.

Agape- is the Greek word used for love in **John 3:16**. Agape Love is the highest form of love--the love God has for us. Dr. Del Tackett tells us Agape love is a sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good (Shalom) of another.

Agape Love is: Totally entered on someone else, Has nothing to do with my benefit, Unearned, Sacrificial, Seeks others True Good (Shalom).

Agape Love is NOT: Selfish or Manipulative, Blind or Truthless, Self- Destructing- Creating dependents, Feigned love, Seeking Power, Self Centered--All about MY script.

True Agape Love is going to cost something. It requires strength, courage and the power of God. This is why Jesus was sent (**John 3:16**), it is why HE died for us (**Romans 5:8**).

If we don't love each other----> We don't love God (**1 John 4:20-21**)

If we don't love each other----> We abide in death (**1 John 3:14**)

If we don't love each other----> We don't know God (**1 John 4:8**)

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 We come back to the first three questions of The Engagement Project: Why did Jesus leave? Why did God send? What is God's endgame? Agape Love --His TRUE Agape Love for us! He seeks our Shalom. He extends His true Agape love when he extends grace for those who hate Him. **Romans 5:6, Romans 5:8, Romans 5:10, Colossians 1:21-22, Ephesians 2:4-6.**

Chesed (HES-ED) has many different translations: Love-NIV, Mercy-KJ-NJK-GB, Loving Kindness-NASB, Loyal Love-NET, Grace-Luther-CJB, Goodness, Favor, Great Kindness, Friendly, Unfailing, Faithful Love, Steadfast Love of God-ESV. (**Psalm 136:1-2**)

Read **Psalm 136:1-2** using multiple translations? Which translation draws you in the most? (Bible Gateway allows for multiple translations side-by-side
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm%20136%3A1-2&version=NLT,NIV,KJV,ESV>)

Who is this God? He is the God who breathed out a promise instead of evaporating everything, the God who spared the seedline of Noah, the God who protected the seedline throughout rebellious times, the God who is committed to YOU and who will never let YOU go. The one true God.

Isaiah 6:13, Isaiah 11:1

We live in difficult times but we are a remnant of hope because the spirit of God is in the stump.

Chesed + Agape Love

Steadfast, sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good (Shalom) of another.

Romans 8:31-39 “God's Everlasting Love”

“31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Reflection:

- What is Love?
 - Did your answer change? Why or why not?
- What is the big take-away for you this week?
 - How will you apply it to your life?