



Finding Your Stewardship Love Language

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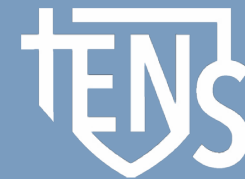
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Diocese of Maryland*

The Five Love Languages

Many people have found Gary Chapman's book The Five Love Languages to be useful in navigating relationships, vocations, and purpose. It hit the New York Times Bestsellers list in 2007, and since then more than 20 million copies have been sold.

You can learn more about *The Five Love Languages* at <https://5lovelanguages.com/>

Introduction

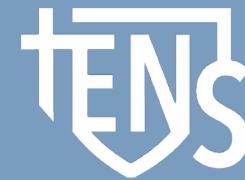


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Learning Objectives

1. What is a love language? Why does it matter?
2. Listening to the Gospel – what are the languages of love that we hear?
3. Love languages as a lens for Stewardship
4. How to use love languages for planning and implementing campaigns

Introduction



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What is YOUR Love Language?

The Love Language® Quiz

For couples, singles, teens, and children.

Take this quiz to discover your primary love language, what it means, and how you can use it to better connect with your loved ones.

English Español

Start

You may print, share, or save your results for future reference - they will not be saved automatically.



Introduction

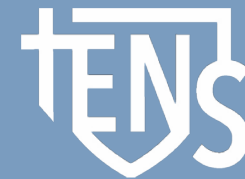


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The 5 Love Languages

- ▶ Acts of Service
- ▶ Physical Presence (Touch)
- ▶ Quality Time
- ▶ Words of Affirmation
- ▶ Gifts

Teaching Love Languages



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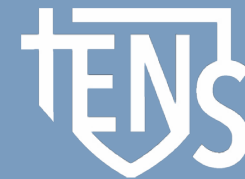
Liturgy: Acts of Service

- ▶ Altar Guild
- ▶ Ushers
- ▶ Choir
- ▶ Faith Formation teachers
- ▶ Lectors
- ▶ Acolytes and Crucifers



Acolytes in the Diocese of Hawai'i

Teaching Love Languages



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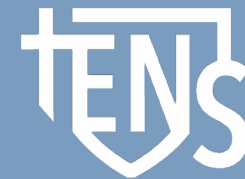
Liturgy: Physical Presence

- Offering the peace
- Standing, sitting, kneeling
- Singing
- The BCP, hymnal or worship guide
- Consuming the bread and wine
- Receiving a blessing
- Vestments, linens, windows and other items of beauty
- ...

Teaching Love Languages



Eucharist with Presiding Bishop Curry, St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, Raleigh, NC



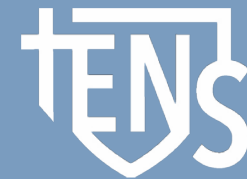
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Liturgy: Quality Time

- ▶ Gathering at a set time for worship
- ▶ Turning off our phones
- ▶ Settling our minds and hearts
- ▶ ...



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Liturgy: Words of Affirmation

- ▶ Hymns of praise
- ▶ The Great Thanksgiving
- ▶ Sharing the Peace
- ▶ ...



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Liturgy: Gifts

- ▶ Plate and pledge
- ▶ Volunteers
- ▶ Bread and wine
- ▶ Artwork
- ▶ ...



Episcopal Church of the Redeemer,
Cincinnati, Ohio: Bread Guild

Teaching Love Languages

Learning Love Languages from Love embodied

What love language/s are present?

- Acts of Service, Physical Presence (Touch), Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts

Matthew 9: 20-22

Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.' Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well.

Finding Love Languages in the Gospel

Learning Love Languages from Love embodied

What love language/s are present?

- Acts of Service, Physical Presence (Touch), Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts

Mark 14: 3-9

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

Finding Love Languages in the Gospel

Learning Love Languages from Love embodied

What love language/s are present?

► Acts of Service, Physical Presence (Touch), Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts

Mark 2: 1-12

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.' Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 'Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?' At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven", or to say, "Stand up and take your mat and walk"? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'—he said to the paralytic— 'I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.' And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this!'

Finding Love Languages in the Gospel

Learning Love Languages from Love embodied

What love language/s are present?

► Acts of Service, Physical Presence (Touch), Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts

Mark 10:35-45, Gospel for October 20, 2024

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

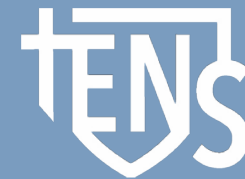
Finding Love Languages in the Gospel

Love Languages in Stewardship

- ▶ We are motivated to share our gifts by many things
 - ▶ Recognition
 - ▶ It feels good to give
 - ▶ Impact – we see our gifts at work in the world
 - ▶ We were asked / participation
 - ▶ Sense of duty
 - ▶ To be active in changing the world



Motivations and Love Language



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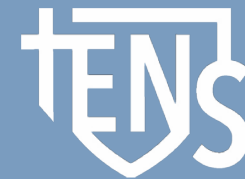
Love Languages in Stewardship

Acts of Service, Physical Presence (Touch), Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts

- ▶ In Stewardship we say that every gift should be thanked seven times. Using love languages, here are some ways to recognize gifts
 - ▶ Handwritten note
 - ▶ General thanksgiving for all who participated
 - ▶ A festive party or luncheon
 - ▶ A token gift – handmade or small
 - ▶ Take someone out to lunch, coffee
 - ▶ A report on impact / ministry



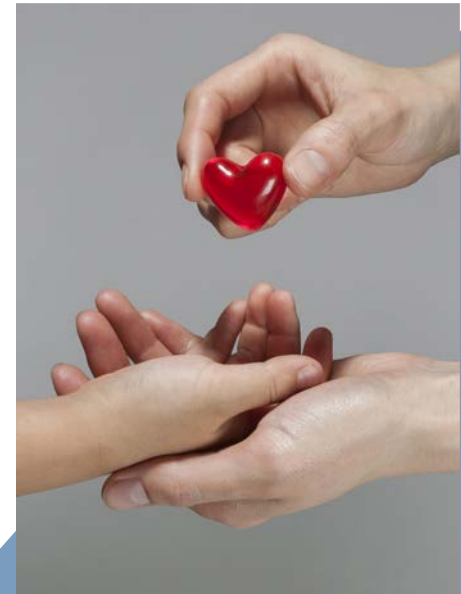
Motivations and Love Language



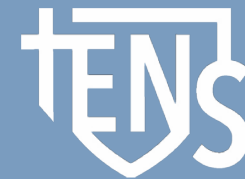
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Love Languages in Stewardship

- ▶ Giving Feels Good
 - ▶ Positive reaffirmation
 - ▶ Sense of joy in seeing people happy
 - ▶ Co-Creation in growing God's reign
 - ▶ Camaraderie – adding a gift to other gifts
 - ▶ Feeling fulfilled



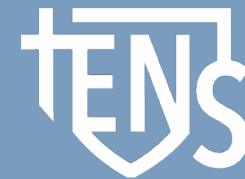
Motivations and Love Language



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Love Languages in Stewardship

- ▶ Impact drives our Giving
 - ▶ We feel a sense of purpose when we see how our gift impacts our neighbors or our neighborhood
 - ▶ Hearing stories from people who benefit from our ministry or from volunteers or staff who work in our programs



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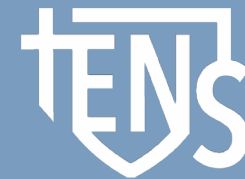
Motivations and Love Language

Love Languages in Stewardship

- ▶ The importance of Invitation
 - ▶ Being asked to give make us feel like what we have is of value
 - ▶ There are many ways we can be asked:
 - ▶ Sharing ideas and solving problems
 - ▶ Serving on a task force or a committee
 - ▶ Giving advice / wisdom
 - ▶ Being asked to teach a class or pass along a skill
 - ▶ Being asked for a specific amount of money for a specific ministry or need



Motivations and Love Language



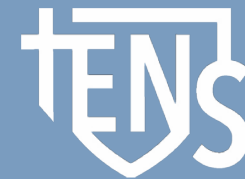
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Love Languages in Stewardship

- ▶ Duty or Sense of Commitment
 - ▶ Your church needs your gifts
 - ▶ Your church has been there for you, make sure it's there for the next generations
 - ▶ No matter the size, you are asked to give (the widow's mite)
 - ▶ Can we count on you?
 - ▶ Your gift makes the difference



Motivations and Love Language

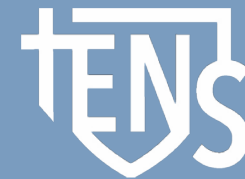


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Love Languages in Stewardship

- ▶ Desire to see change
 - ▶ Our Baptismal Covenant calls us to participate with Jesus in changing the world
 - ▶ The Great Commission calls us to go into all parts of the world to share the Good news
 - ▶ Our gifts of wealth, works, and wisdom make our communities stronger and address the needs of our neighbors

Motivations and Love Language

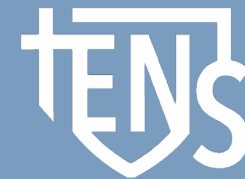


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Love Languages and Your Campaign

- ▶ Speaking ***all*** the love languages
 - ▶ Recruiting diverse volunteers to express the opportunities to share our lives
- ▶ Hearing ***all*** the love languages
 - ▶ Receiving gifts in a variety of expressions

Implementing a Campaign



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Love Languages and Your Campaign

Speaking *all* the love languages

- ▶ Embodied, physical acts of service tied to campaign
 - ▶ collect new socks for shelter, old towels for guide dogs, restore a pathway on campus or a bridge at a local park, walk-a-thon to raise awareness & funds for local initiative)
- ▶ Create connection opportunities through...
 - ▶ service opportunities, fellowship, house meetings, 1:1
- ▶ Preach affirming words
 - ▶ “You are a generous community.”
 - ▶ You are walking in love in these beautiful ways...”
- ▶ Use appreciative language in letters, testimonies, messaging
- ▶ Give something to every member over a month
 - ▶ stickers, grocery bags, giving plates, car magnets, handmade art from children/VBS, mugs, Christmas ornament, pansies, button, baby pumpkin



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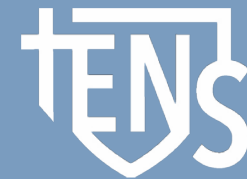
Implementing a Campaign

Love Languages and Your Campaign

- ▶ Hearing ***all*** the love languages
 - ▶ Receiving gifts in a variety of expressions

- ▶ Hearing ***all*** the love languages
 - ▶ Receiving gifts in a variety of expressions
 - ▶ Physical pledge card
 - ▶ Volunteering
 - ▶ Invite people to share expressions of gratitude
 - ▶ Collect an item on Ingathering Sunday
 - socks for shelter
 - food for pantry

Implementing a Campaign

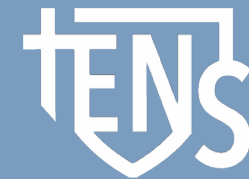


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Love Languages in Stewardship

Discussion

- Considering this new information, where might you reach people in a new way?
- Where might we expand what we already do to motivate people to give?
- Align what you are already doing with the language of love that motivates you



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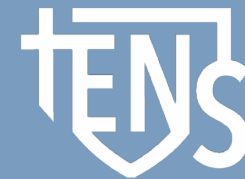
Motivations and Love Language

TENS Theme for 2024

When we walk in love, there is clarity and purpose. We move in alignment with each other and with our values. Walking in love is also something we cannot do alone - by definition it implies connection, community.

Whether we walk with our children or our spouse, or form an orderly line, or rely on the help of a friend or a neighbor, we carry with us all with whom we are in communion and they carry us with them. Our journey is one made by millions, over thousands of years: a cycle of sharing and invitation.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.. **Ephesians 5: 1-2, NRSV**



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Thank you!

For more information, resources, and videos, find us at www.tens.org

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