

# Ephesians Series

Lesson #186

March 26, 2023

Dean Bible Ministries

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**Spiritual Skills:  
Loving God and Loving Others  
Deuteronomy 6:5–8; Luke 10:25–37**



# EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK  
& WARFARE  
OF THE BELIEVER



## **In this lesson:**

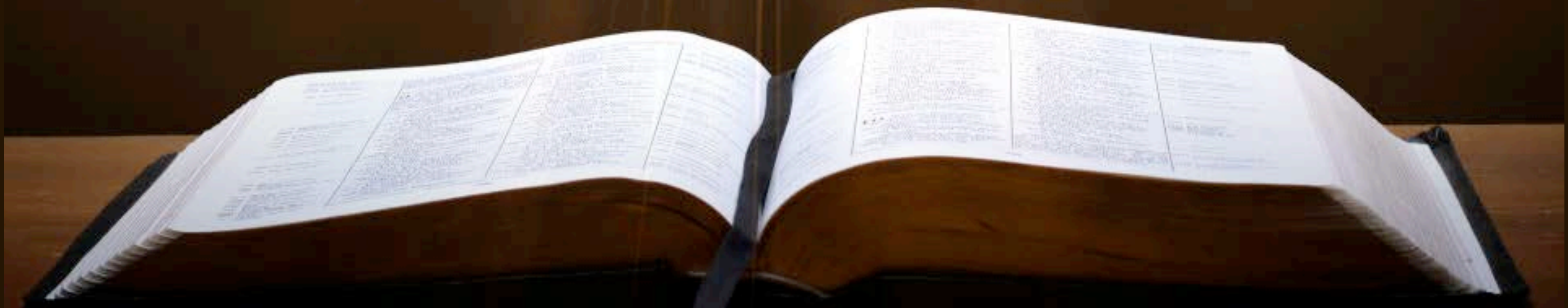
- **Understanding love**
- **Defining love as “personal” and “impersonal;”  
“conditional” and “unconditional”**
- **The relationship of love to grace and mercy**

**What we have already learned:**

**Basic spiritual skills: the foundation for more advanced skills**

**What the Bible Teaches About**

**Spiritual Skills for  
LIFE**



## Spiritual Adolescence (νεανίσκοι, *neaniskoi*, 1 John 2:13)

Personal Sense of Your Eternal Destiny

Rom. 8:16–17

## Spiritual Childhood (τέκνον, *teknon*)

Confess  
1 John 1:9

WHS, FHS  
Eph. 5:18

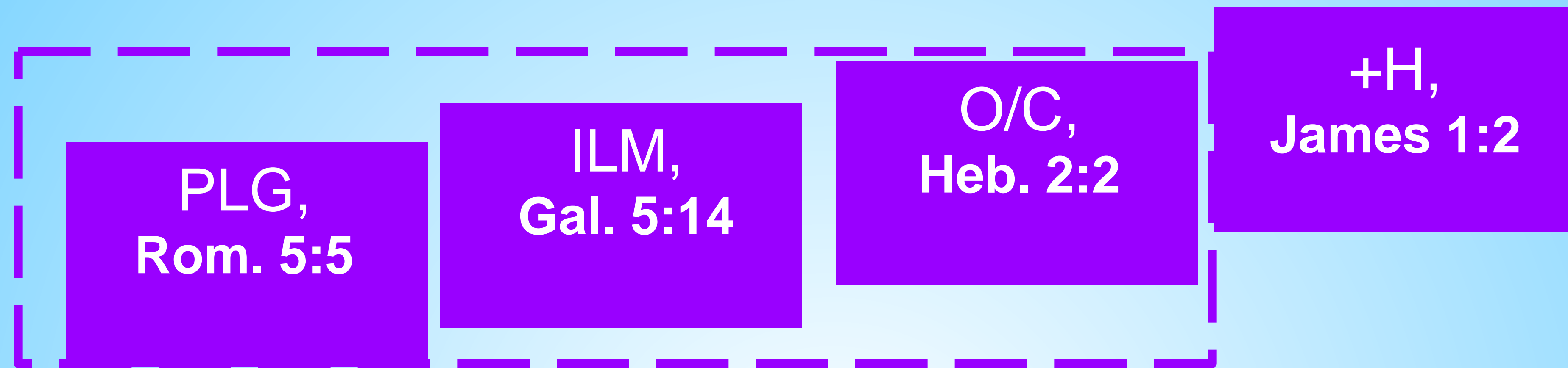
FRD  
2 Pet. 1:3, 4

G/O  
2 Pet. 3:18

D/O  
2 Pet. 3:18



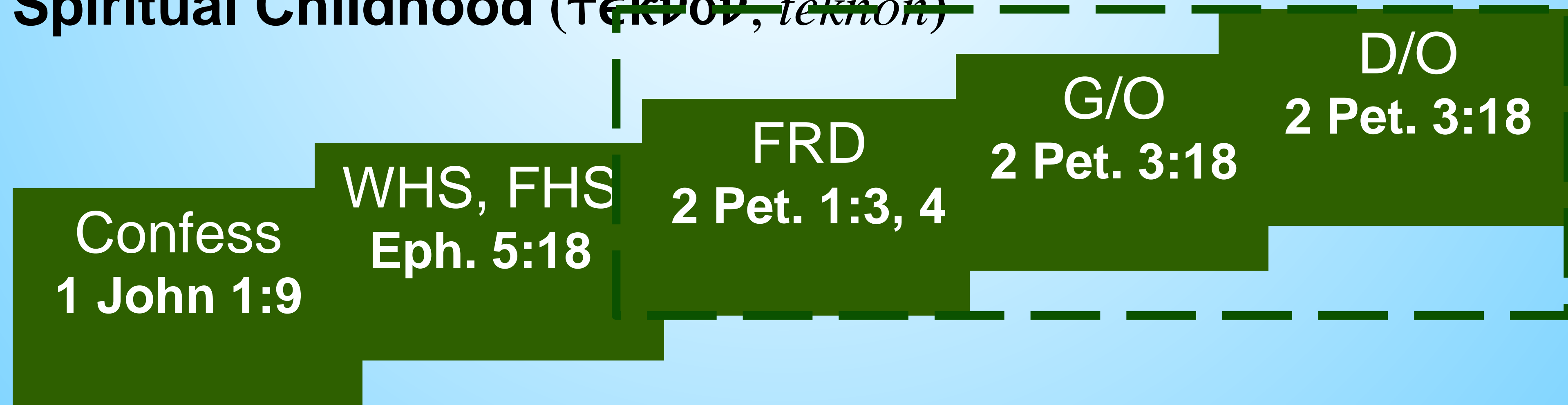
## Spiritual Adults (υἱοὶ, *huioi*, adult sons, Rom. 8:14)



## Spiritual Adolescence (νεανίσκοι, *neaniskoi*, 1 John 2:13)

**Personal Sense of Your Eternal Destiny**  
Rom. 8:16–17

## Spiritual Childhood (τέκνον, *teknon*)



**Spiritual Skill #7**  
**Personal Love for God**



# Conclusions

- **As the believer learns about God and all God has provided for him, appreciation increases along with a desire to obey God and serve Him.**
- **Love for God is measured by obedience, not emotion.**
- **Love for God motivates the believer to press on to spiritual maturity.**

## #7 Personal Love for God

**Deut. 6:5, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”**

**Deut. 11:1, “Therefore you shall love the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always.”**

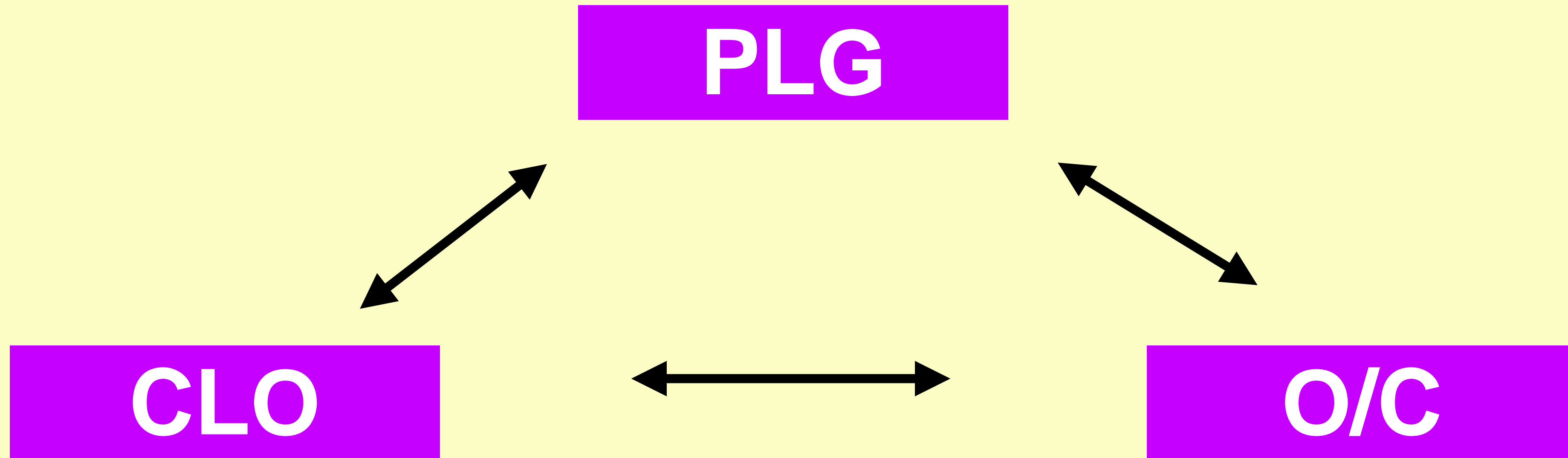


## **#7 Personal Love for God**

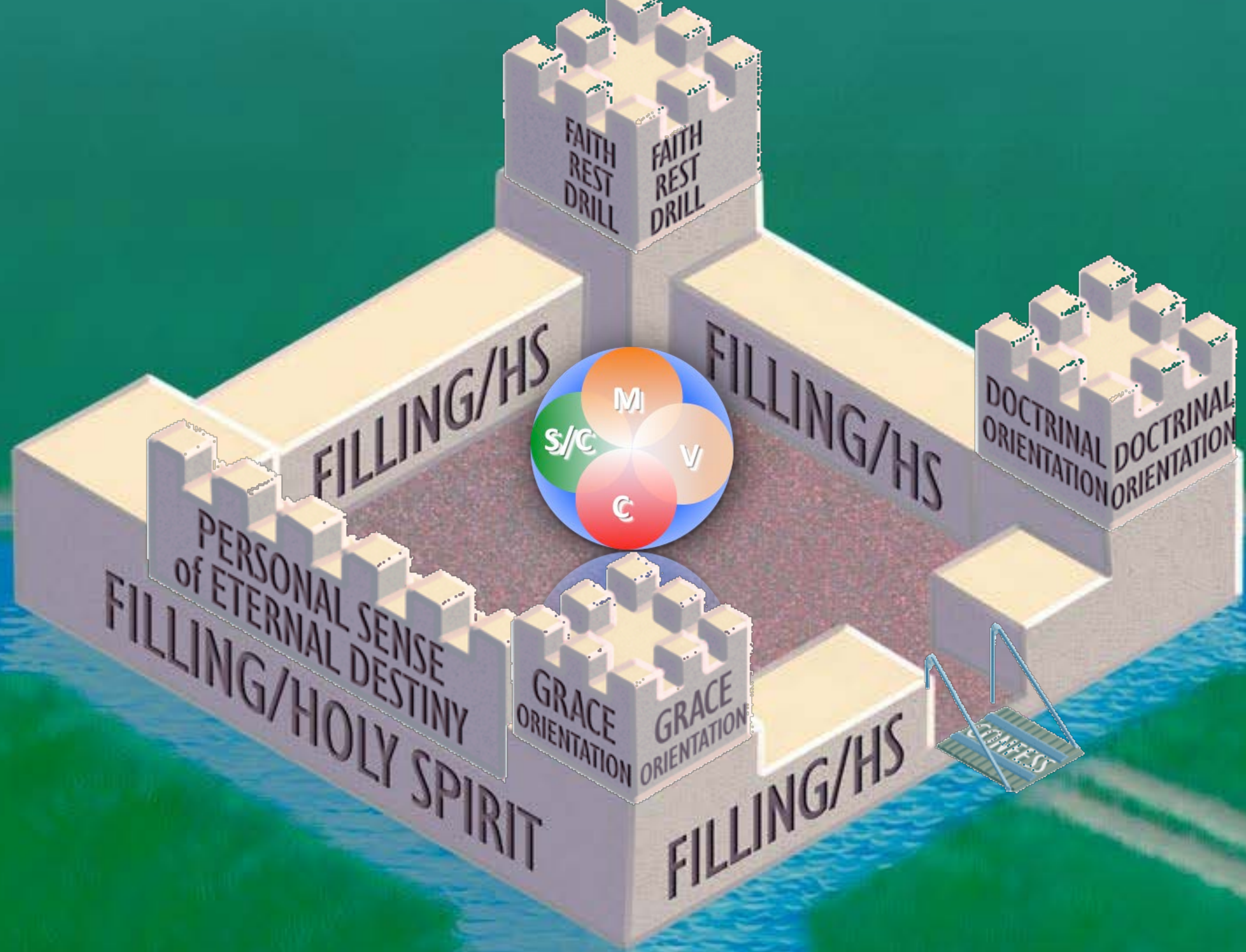
**John 14:23, “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.**

**John 14:24, “ ‘He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.’ ”**

# #7 Personal Love for God



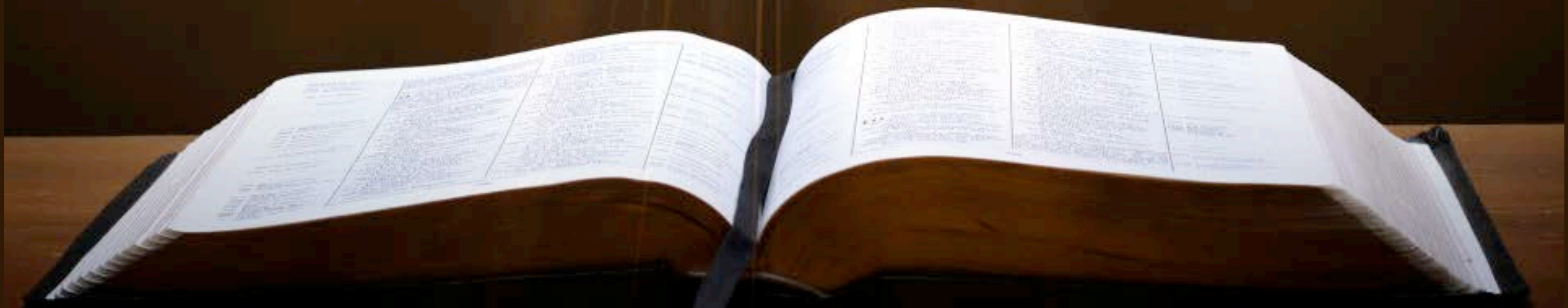






# **What the Bible Teaches About**

## **Understanding Biblical Love**





# **1. The parable of the good Samaritan is the illustration of love. Luke 10:25–37**

**Lk. 10:25, “And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, ‘Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?’”**

**Lk. 10:26, “He said to him, ‘What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?’”**

**Lk. 10:27, “So he answered and said, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’”**

**Lk. 10:28, “And He said to him, ‘You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.’ ” [NKJV]**

**Lk. 10:25, “And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, ‘Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ ” [NKJV]**



**Lk. 10:26, “He [Jesus] said to him, ‘What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?’ ” [NKJV]**

**Lk. 10:27, “So he answered and said, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’ ” [NKJV]**

**Mark 12:29, “Jesus answered him, ‘The first of all the commandments is: *“Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.***

**Mark 12:30, “ ‘ “And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.” This is the first commandment.**

**Mark 12:31, “ ‘ And the second, like it, is this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’ ”**



**Gal. 5:13, “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”**

**Gal. 5:14, “For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: ‘*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*’ ” cf., Lev. 19:18.**

**Gal. 5:13, “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”**

**Gal. 5:14, “For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: ‘*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*’ ” cf., Lev. 19:18. [Biblical love]**

**Gal. 5:13, “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”**

**Gal. 5:14, “For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: ‘*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*’ ” cf., Lev. 19:18. [Biblical love]**

**Gal. 5:16, “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”**

**Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,”**



**Mark 12:30, “ ‘*And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*’ This is the first commandment.”**

**ἀγαπάω *agapaō*  
pres act infin  
to love**

**καρδία *kardia* gen fem sing heart, fig.,  
for the mind, or inner-most thoughts**

**ψυχή *psuchē* fem sing gen soul, self, life**

**σύνεσις *sunesis* gen fem sing  
understanding, intelligence**

**ἰσχύς *ischus* gen fem sing strength, might**

**Mark 12:30, “ ‘ And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.”**

**Matt. 22:37, “Jesus said to him, ““You shall love the LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.” ’ ”**

**καρδία *kardia* gen fem sing heart,  
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sing gen soul,  
self, life**

**σύνεσις *sunesis*  
gen fem sing  
understanding,  
intelligence**

**Deut. 6:4, “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!”**

**Deut. 6:5, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”**



**Lk. 10:27, “So he answered and said, ‘ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,” and “your neighbor as yourself.” ’ ” [NKJV]**

**Deut. 6:5, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”**

**Lev. 19:18, “You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.”**

**Lk. 10:28, “And He said to him, ‘You have answered  
rightly; do this and you will live.’ ” [NKJV]**

**Lk. 10:28, “And He said to him, ‘You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.’ ” [NKJV]**

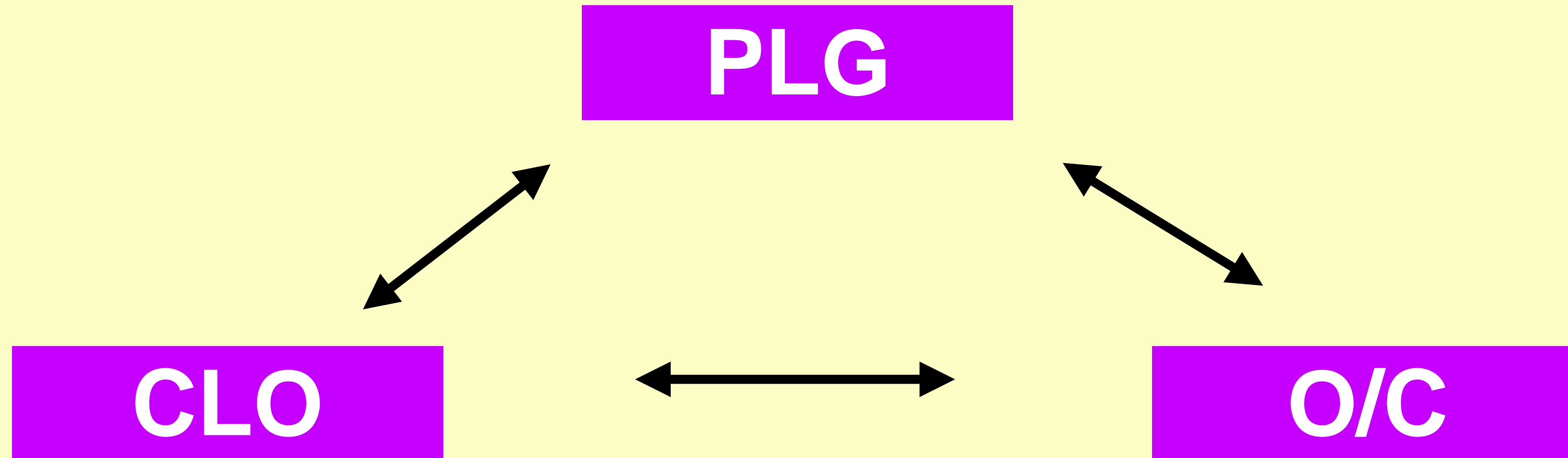
**Lev. 18:4, “You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I am the LORD your God.**

**Lev. 18:5, “Keep My statutes and ordinances; a person will live if he does them. I am Yahweh.” [HCSB]**

**Lk. 10:29, “But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus,  
‘And who is my neighbor?’ ” [NKJV]**



# The Interconnection Between



**Lk. 10:30, “Then Jesus answered and said: ‘A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.’ ” [NKJV]**

**Lk. 10:31, “Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.**

**Lk. 10:32, “Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side.**

**Lk. 10:33, “But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion.**

**Lk. 10:34, “So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.” [NKJV]**



**Lk. 10:35, “On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’”**

**Lk. 10:36, “So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?” [NKJV]**

**Lk. 10:37, “And he said, ‘He who showed mercy on him.’  
Then Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’ ” [NKJV]**

## **What do we learn from this?**

- 1. Neither the Samaritan, the priest, or the Levite knew the Jew who had been mugged on the road to Jericho. So the application of love extends to someone that is not even known by the one who is showing love.**



**2. The recipient of the Samaritan's act of love was part of a culture that was totally hostile to the Samaritan religion and people. They would not walk through their territory, even the lawyer will not pronounce their name.**

**3. The neighbor is anyone we meet whether we know them or not, like them or not, appreciate them or not. It is another human being.**

**4. This means that the love is not conditioned upon the behavior or likability or any other positive factor in the one who receives it—even if the one who is shown love is an enemy or someone hostile to the one showing the love.**



**5. This love is called “impersonal” because it emphasizes that there is no personal connection or knowledge between the two; and “unconditional” because there is no positive condition on the part of the one receiving the act of love.**

**6. This is indeed a demonstration of grace. “Love” that is not based on grace, is not love.**