#### Life is a Dance

Think for a second about each letter used in this project. The English alphabet has 26 letters. These can join to form at least 700,000 different words. By ordering them "just-so," meaning can move from one person, and be received and returned by another. Look closely. **It's a <u>dance.</u>** 

From the starry heavens above us, to the molecules "joining hands" to form us – all reality is a dance. At the bottom of your physical being, your DNA is written from a four-letter chemical alphabet (adenine, thymine, guanine, and cytosine). These join to form more than 3 billion genetic words called base-pairs. By ordering them "just-so" bio-sentences called genes can be written. When these are ordered, bound, and "moving in step together" – you result. So Who started the dance?

That's the question! You come from the dance of your parents. They came from the dance of theirs – and back and back to humanity's beginning. Life isn't something we each make on our own. It has to be **given** to us – by Life. We aren't accidents. Each of us is part of a moving masterpiece with a due perfection and a proper function – to join in the dance.

### GOD IS...

Alright! What do life, dancing, community, meaning—and us taking it all for granted have to do with Love? <u>Everything!</u>

Love is the free gift of oneself to and for another. When a beloved receives the gift and offers themself to their lover in return, miracles happen. Each lover completes the other, and together they become more than the sum of themselves. Every child born of true love is an addition to this "life-dance." Whether love is found in the innocent trust of childhood, the faithfulness of parenthood, the passions of marriage, or in the easy comfort of true friendship – to truly love is to truly live. True-Love unites us to the Life of God. Indeed, True-Love is the due-perfection of each and every human person, but it won't be found in any of us alone. It can only come from God. Why? Because HE IS Love.

It's not good for anyone to be <u>alone</u>. To be alone is to lack <u>Community</u>. It's to sit off to the side of life and watch the dance without joining in. Since God is the Perfect-Being, He lacks nothing. HE IS the source and example of every goodness a person can know. HE IS Life. HE IS Meaning. HE IS Unity.

**Beloved**, <u>God IS</u> the Dance! Join Him! Deuteronomy 6:4–John 1, 3 & 17–1 John 4

# What Is Love?



Love IS humanity's greatest joy. Its absence or interruption gives rise to our darkest horrors and deepest griefs. Love is the constant subject of movies, books, music, and every other kind of art. Indeed, no topic receives more human attention than Love. We all long to hear the words: "I Love You?" The question is...

# Can You Say What It Really Means?

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## **Taking It For Granted**

Do you take anything in life for granted? When's the last time you thought about the food you eat, the water you drink, or even the air that you breathe? Often, the <u>importance</u> of such things is appreciated only by those forced to go without. Is air important? Ask someone suffering from asthma. Is food & water important? Ask those suffering from hunger or thirst.

Now — I'm not talking about your midmorning tummy-rumbles. Ask someone who is often forced by circumstances to go several days or more without a meal. Many of us don't often think about the things that are absolutely necessary to our existence. We can't even live without them, but we still take them for granted.

Do you take **Love** for granted? An easier question is: "do we take each other for granted?" Again, those going without can best answer the question. **How important is love really?** Ask a widow or orphan. Ask a parent who has lost their child. Ask a friend who stubbornly waited too long to mend a broken relationship. When love is broken or lost, it sure seems like it's all that really matters in the world. <u>It is!</u>

### Meaning & Community

Have you considered how the words we use each day got their **meaning**? Most of us take meaning for granted – so notice this carefully. You are reading my words and receiving my intended message (I hope). This is called **communication** and it's a big part of what makes a **community** possible.

Right now, you and I share a <u>relationship</u>. I am a writer <u>giving</u> you my thoughts, and you are a reader <u>receiving</u> them. How does it work? Well, for our relationship to function, we both have to know what the words mean. Who decides? If I say "chicken," should you think "fish?" If I say "now," should you think "next-year." Of course not. If our relationship is to actually function, the meaning beneath our words has to be <u>objective.</u>

Whoa! Some "smart-folks" say that there's no such thing as objective meaning. Alright, imagine your waiter is showing off and doesn't jot down your order. He brings you a chicken-breast instead of the salmon that you ordered. Do you accept "your order" without comment and leave him a big tip? I doubt it. The chicken's going back. Why? Because the waiter got <u>the meaning</u> wrong. He failed to do his part in a functioning <u>Community</u>.

## A Cornerstone: What's an Axiom?

Such failures are <u>misunderstandings</u> and result from instances of <u>confusion</u>. While confusion is a common problem (and a rapidly growing one)—it's the exception not the rule. Your embarrassed waiter will understand when you reject the plate and say: "I ordered the salmon." He'll even perceive: "you should have written it down" from the hungry & frustrated look "written" on your face.

Notice this carefully. Meaning gets lost in the absence of a functioning relationship. Think hard. Is there anything in the world that doesn't depend on something else to make it work. I dare you to find one. Whether physical, psychological, or spiritual – meaning describes functioning relationships or the absence of one.

A <u>First-Fact</u> or <u>Ultimate-Object</u> must be beneath all objective meaning. We can't function without it, and we all take it for granted. An <u>axiom</u> is basic meaning that can't be reduced. Axioms make all other meaning possible. A <u>Chief-Axiom</u> works like a <u>Cornerstone</u> binding all meaning together in the right order, and enabling us to understand reality. It is <u>Unity</u>.