

Love as a Path



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**“I shall show you a still more
excellent way.”**

1 Cor 12:31

6 MY DESIRE: TRUE LOVE

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“I shall show you a still more excellent way.”

1 Cor 12:31



Take a good look at this picture!

There are two older people, a man and a woman, walking together.

They are close to each other.

It seems like if one stops the other will wait, and they will continue on their walk together.

Their footprints will remain in the sand, while others will be wiped away by the sea.

And the same thing will happen as the years go by...

Someone asked an elderly woman:

-“How did you manage to stay together for 65 years?”

Proud that she was asked, she answered:

-“We were born in a time where if something was broken, you fixed it, because it had value and couldn't just be thrown in the trash.”



This night, just like every night, they will rest at each other's side, after a long walk on the beach...

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1 Think about this older married couple. Imagine how they met. What path did their relationship take for them to be able to arrive to old age loving each other so much? Let's begin:

Come up with the story!

First, he.....

Then he approached her and said,

They made plans to

Then,

He called her one hour later and ...

They started to go out when he

She felt good about him when

And he felt good about her because

They got married and

The years passed and she continued to feel... ..

He trusts her because

And she trusts him because.....



2 Think about this question: How do you think that a loving relationship arises? Is love always the same? How does it change over time?

3 Now we're going to see how love is a path. Write down what you think each stage is called, according to the statements in the speech bubbles.

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FIRST STAGE:

He looks really good!!

She's so pretty!!



SECOND STAGE: cal

I love being with him!

I am so comfortable when I talk to her!



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THIRD STAGE: cal

He's always on my mind.
I remember something
about her every
second.



FOURTH STAGE:

I want to share my
life with you. I love
you, forever.



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4 Now you're going to be the main character. Divide the 4 stages among the class and send a *whatsapp* to your imaginary boyfriend/girlfriend that corresponds to the stage of love you were assigned.



If your teacher allows it, you can use your cell phones to send the messages to each other.

Now, complete the chart, filling in the phrases that you used for each stage.

STAGE 1



STAGE 2



STAGE 3



STAGE 4





Let's take advantage of this time to reflect on the means that we use to communicate with each other. Do you think that a true relationship can be built in this way?

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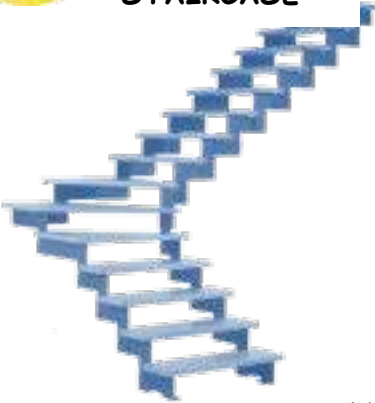
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5 After looking at the stages of love, we are going to present you with three images. **OBSERVE!!**

Try to choose which image you think represents the meaning of LOVE. Explain your choice.



STAIRCASE



STRAIGHT LINE



SPIRAL



How would you describe love?

As a staircase, a straight line or a spiral?

6 Let's compare the stages of love to what happens in games like Candy Crush, where you have to pass a level in order to move up.

Until you complete the task corresponding to each stage you can't move on to the next level. You're not allowed to advance.

The player has to try as hard as they can to complete the task, patiently observing and meditating on each movement, every opportunity in the game...and if they don't win the game, they get a message saying:

Level not passed!

You haven't reached the objective!

Try again.

And so, the player starts over.



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Think about how the description of this game can be compared with the levels of love and the relationship of a couple. Share your thoughts with your classmates.

In Candy Crush, when you run out of lives you can ask for help from your friends and contacts.

Do you think that we need to receive help in love, too? And to ask for help when necessary?



7. But love is not a game. Sometimes we would do more if the limits were marked out for us and we were told:



Try again! Give me more lives.

But your life is not a game. Your life is your own. You are the one who has to LIVE it, using your FREEDOM, your REASON, your WILL, your BODY, and your whole PERSON.

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Love is both a path and a call. It has a **STARTING LINE** and a **GOAL**.

The starting signal is given to me by another person. A glance, a smile, the way that they act and talk... Someone, without my realizing it, begins to take over my thoughts and affections. I can't stop thinking about him! I can't stop thinking about her! I am at the **STARTING LINE** of love!

Love isn't planned; it is discovered and accepted.

But this is not the end; it is not a complete love. There is a need for both of us to get to know each other: you and me. In knowing you, I can love you.

The stages of love begin to teach me to love. It is important not to take on any stage too soon, or to waste any moment. Instead, I must live out each stretch of the way enjoying it as much as possible, without missing out on any details. This will enable me to reach the **GOAL** as a complete, fulfilled person.

Think that you are not alone on this path. Your relationships with your parents, siblings, teachers and friends can all help you.

