

# LOVE? POO! WHAT IS IT?

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## Intent of the story

- ✓ *To be aware of the difference between love and liking.*
- ✓ *Often enough our love is not love but selfishness*
- ✓ *Love is divine. Liking is human.*

## The Story

In a beautiful garden, two lovely roses were leisurely chit-chatting. A lovely rose confided to her friend, "You know. I am so happy. People really love us, No price, no sacrifice is costly enough for them to have us. They are delighted and enthralled with us"

Her friend replied: "Love? Poo! What is love? Do you really think that people love us? I often wonder... I can't understand them" "People say that they love us, yet they pluck us from our gardens where we happily live in the company of each other causing us untold pains. Then, they give us away to their friends and lovers."

"Others place us in precious vases; then, they keep us prisoners in their homes just to enjoy our colors and fragrance. When we wither and we are of no use to them, they throw us in the dustbin. Would you call all this love?" Still, others who 'love' us, so they say, trade on us and sell us to the higher bidder; thus, by exploiting our beauty and fragrance they make themselves rich. **If what humans do to us is love, my friend, I do not want to be loved!.**

## POINTS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION.

1. What is love and what is not?
2. What is love and what liking?
3. Can we love as God loves us?
4. Explain the following sentences:
  - Liking is self-centered. Love is other centered.
  - Liking makes us to use people.
  - Love makes us spend ourselves for people.
  - Liking is human. Love divine.

- God does not “like” us, he just loves us!
  - We should not like God, but only love Him!
  - God loves sinners, not their sins.
  - We have to love others, and hate their wrongs!
  - Love is not for kicks, but for service
  - Love is not a feeling; it’s just an act of the will.
  - Properly speaking, we cannot love things, we can only like them.
  - Our problem for us humans is that we love things and use people.
  - Love is like a straight line. It goes out from itself to others never to come back. It aims at others and forgets self. **I simply love you,**
  - Liking is like a point in a circle. It moves on to others but always comes back to itself. It forgets others. It aims at itself. **I like you because you give me something I like,** for instance, joy, pleasure, company, money, honor, etc.
5. Quote some Gospel texts about true love.