
Can You Separate Love and Wisdom?

The good in the marriage of good and truth produces love, and the truth in it produces wisdom. And when love is added to wisdom or united with it, then love becomes loving. And when wisdom conversely is added to love and united with it, then wisdom becomes wise (see *Conjugal Love* 65).

When love is added to wisdom, then love become more loving.

Can you think of examples of situations in which wisdom helps love be expressed in ways that are truly loving—looking to the long-term good perhaps rather than short-term needs?

Are there times when an action that seems loving may actually do more harm than good? (For example, consider ways to help people who may suffer from addictions or reflect on the kinds of decisions that parents need to make.)

When wisdom is added to love, then wisdom becomes wiser.

Can you think of examples of situations in which love helps wisdom become truly wise?

What if someone considered a situation from the perspective of what is just without considering what is merciful? Could that be an example of a time when love could help wisdom become truly wise?

Drawing on Both Love and Wisdom

Why is it impossible to *completely* separate love and wisdom? (Think about the interaction of the heart and lungs which picture the interdependence of love and wisdom.*)

Why does the Lord want us to have both good and truth or love and wisdom guiding our actions?

* If you want to explore this further, see *Conjugal Love* 87:3 or *Divine Love and Wisdom* 403, 404, 410, 415.