#### Lupus and Intimacy

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Sex and intimacy may not be a life or death issue but they are very real quality of life issues

# The Five Love Languages (By: Dr. Gary Chapman):

- Verbal Affirmation
- Quality Time
- Acts of Service
- Physical Touch
- Receiving Gifts

#### Non-physical intimacy:

#### Physical intimacy:

"Your attitude about your sexual relationship is important. Some individuals regard sex as a duty, others as a gift. The truth is probably somewhere in between for most of us"

### Symptoms familiar to Lupus that affects sexual expression includes:

- Pain, aches & fatigue
- Skin rashes
- Sensitivity to temperature
- Anxiety, Guilt, Anger, Depression
- Medications
- Physiological responsiveness
- Passion: The Body Brain Connection

# TIPS for Self Care and Mutual Care

## FOCUS IS ON THE JOURNEY, NOT ON THE DESTINATION!

### Questions

