

Spreading the **WORD** Ministry



Love in Action

Love is often spoken of, celebrated, and admired, but true love goes far beyond words. It is easy to say, “I love you,” but the real test of love is found in what we do—especially when it costs us something. Jesus Christ demonstrated this perfectly through His ultimate act of love on the cross. His sacrifice was not just an expression of affection; it was a bold and painful action that changed the course of history and showed us the true meaning of love.

In 1 John 3:18, we are reminded, “My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.” Jesus didn’t just tell us He loved us—He proved it. His life was filled with acts of love, from healing the sick to feeding the hungry, and ultimately laying

down His life for humanity. John 15:13 says, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” On the cross, Jesus’ love wasn’t convenient, comfortable, or easy—it was sacrificial. He bore the weight of our sins and suffered on our behalf, not because we deserved it, but because His love is unconditional and boundless.

One story that highlights love in action is the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). Jesus told this parable to teach us that love isn’t just about feelings but about making sacrifices for others. The Samaritan went out of his way to care for a man who had been beaten and left for dead, even though they were strangers and from different cultural backgrounds. While others passed by, the Samaritan stopped, bandaged the man’s wounds, and paid for his recovery. This story reminds us that love requires effort, time, and often stepping out of our comfort zones.

This example challenges us to reflect on how we express love in our own lives. Do our actions align with the words we speak? Loving through action often means putting others before ourselves and choosing humility and service. It can look like:

- Forgiving someone who has wronged us, even when it is hard.
- Helping a neighbor or stranger in need, even if it interrupts our plans.
- Showing kindness to someone who may be difficult to love.

These small, everyday acts of love may not feel significant, but they reflect the heart of Christ. Sacrificial love is rarely glamorous, but it’s always transformative. When we choose to love through action, we shine a light in a world that desperately needs hope.

Sacrificial love also has a cost. In Matthew 16:24, Jesus said, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” Loving like Jesus means choosing to serve others, even when it’s inconvenient or uncomfortable. It is a love that requires us to let go of selfishness and trust in God’s strength. When we take up our cross, we’re not just loving others—we’re being transformed into Christ’s image, growing in patience, compassion, and grace.

As we celebrate love this February, let’s not settle for words alone. Let’s take action. Let’s show the love of Christ in how we serve, forgive, and care for those around us. Though loving sacrificially isn’t easy, God equips us with His Spirit to love as He loves. And as we do, we reflect His grace and draw others to Him.

This month, let’s be thankful for the greatest act of love in history: Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. Let’s also take the opportunity to share that love with a world that desperately needs it—not just in words, but in action.



“So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing
by the **WORD** of God.” Romans 10:17
February 2025 VOL. 206

Follow Your Heart?

Christopher Kolker MD

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? Jeremiah 17:9

"But I don't feel anything!"

If I had a dime for every time I heard that one!

Whenever someone comes to me, wanting to turn their life around by embracing God's grace, the subject of prayer will come up.

After all, how can you have a relationship with someone if you don't communicate with them?

"Sounds good!" is the usual response. And off they go to their new life. The End. Happy endings all the way around, right?

Not so much.

Typically, the same person comes around about three weeks later. "I don't know much about that prayer stuff, Doc. It just doesn't work for me. I didn't feel anything."

I tell them that maybe they ought to try a different god- I hear Buddhism is making a comeback. (Just kidding! I do NOT say that.)

I tell them to look in the Bible and search for passages that teach us to pray. Here is a sample of what you are going to find:

Ephesians 6:18 *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*

Matthew 6:5-6 *And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites.....But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen.*

Mark 11:25 *And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.*

Philippians 4:6 *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

And, of course, in Matthew 6, Jesus tells us about the Lord's prayer, the perfect way to phrase our prayers.

Nowhere in the Bible does it say that after a prayer, you should hear the booming voice of God. It doesn't say that you will have instant wisdom or that material things will suddenly rain down on you. It doesn't say that your health will improve, or you will even have a warm, fuzzy feeling inside.

It is not about you. We pray to God because He desires a relationship with us. That should be enough for us.

Relationships take time. Years. And when you develop a real relationship with God, you will understand that we are to bear His cross, and He will give us that strength that crushes anxiety, as mentioned in Philippians 4:6. We will feel that strength after we put down our sin.

No warm fuzzies, no magic cure.

But your eternal life depends on it. Get started today!

WE



TO HEAR FROM OUR LISTENERS

Receiving your broadcast is a significant learning event for me. I always listen with my family and we appreciate the teaching that you do. Thank You A. Patrick Dublin, Ireland

I sing the praises of God's name and I rejoice in the ways of the Father. E. Sullivan

I am looking forward to 2025 and more of your fine broadcast for the Lord. My sister Sara and I listen every week. Blessing for the New Year. K. Johnson New York, NY

I have long been a fan of your program. There is so much learning I have still to do about the Bible. Your program is always fascinating and I am benefiting a lot from your teaching of the word. Connie Jo Winters

Your lesson's are giving me an increase in my understanding and growth in my faith. Thank You, Ana Medina, Mexico City

Do You Love The Word?



1 Corinthians 13:4-9

Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

John 3 :16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Deuteronomy 7:9

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Psalms 86:15

But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.
