

LOVE IN ACTION: SERVE, CARE & BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS

Keep the Eternal Perspective

Colossians 3:2 — Set your mind on **things above**, not on things on the earth.

Mark 9:41 — God notices and rewards even the **small things** done in Christ's name.

Last week we looked at Jesus' command to **love one another**.

John 13:34–35 — Jesus tells us to love one another as He loved us. This love is one of the ways people will recognize us as His disciples.

Matthew 19:28–29 — Jesus teaches that sacrifices made for His name are not forgotten; there is **eternal reward**.

Jesus Loved — Let's Follow Him

If Jesus is our example, then love shouldn't remain an idea or feeling. **Love becomes action**.

1. SERVE ONE ANOTHER

Jesus Gave Us the Example

John 13:1–5, 12–17 — Jesus washes His disciples' feet.

Jesus—their **Lord and Teacher**—willingly took the position of a servant. Then He told His disciples to follow His example.

If Jesus served, we should serve.

And Jesus specifically says there is **blessing in doing it**, not merely knowing it.

Serve Through Love

Galatians 5:13 — “Through love serve one another.”

Christian freedom isn't an excuse to focus on ourselves. We're free to **serve others through love**.

Compare with **Philippians 2:3–4** — Don't act from selfish ambition or conceit. Humbly value others and look out for **their interests as well as your own**.

Use What God Gave You

1 Peter 4:10 — Each person has received a gift. We are instructed to **use those gifts to serve one another** as good stewards of God's grace.

Your gift isn't only for you.

God gives to us → we use it to serve others.

Greatness in God's Kingdom

Mark 10:43–45 — Jesus completely changes the world's definition of greatness:

Whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.

Jesus Himself **“did not come to be served, but to serve.”**

KEY: In God's Kingdom, greatness isn't measured by how many people serve you, but by your willingness to serve others. An opposite idea of the worlds.

2. CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER

1 Corinthians 12:25–26 — God designed the body of Christ so that its members should have **the same care for one another**.

When one member suffers, the others suffer with them. When one is honored, everyone rejoices.

Take a Genuine Interest in Others

Romans 12:15 — Rejoice with those who rejoice and **weep with those who weep**.

Caring means entering into what someone else is experiencing rather than remaining focused only on ourselves.

Philippians 2:4 — Look not only to your own interests, but also to **the interests of others**.

Love Requires Action

1 John 3:16–18 — Jesus demonstrated love by laying down His life for us. We should likewise be willing to give of ourselves for others.

John makes the point very practical:

Don't love only “in word or in tongue,” but **“in deed and in truth.”**

KEY: Biblical love isn't merely something we **say**. It's something people should be able to **experience through our actions**.

3. BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS

Galatians 6:2 — “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

When we see someone overwhelmed or struggling, we shouldn't simply notice their burden.

We help carry it.

Don't Live Only to Please Yourself

Romans 15:1 — Those who are strong should **bear with the weaknesses of the weak**, rather than simply pleasing themselves.

Our strength can be used to help carry someone who is struggling.

Back to the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:26–27 — We are **one body**. What if we are a body who is dragging a leg around? Doesn't the whole body suffer?

If one member suffers, **we all suffer**. If one member is honored, **we all rejoice**.

This connects all three ideas:

Care for one another → Serve one another → Bear one another's burdens

THE CONNECTION

Jesus didn't simply command us to love one another and leave us wondering what that looks like.

Scripture shows us:

LOVE ONE ANOTHER



SERVE ONE ANOTHER — Galatians 5:13



CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER — 1 Corinthians 12:25



BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS — Galatians 6:2

And all of it points back to **Jesus**.

He loved us.

He served us.

He cared for us.

He carried what we could not carry ourselves.

Bringing It Back to Heavenly Rewards

We don't love and serve people **just to earn a reward**. We do it because we love Christ and because **He first loved us**.

But when we keep our minds on things above, we also remember what Jesus taught in **Mark 9:41**:

God notices even the smallest act done for Him.

A cup of water matters.

Helping someone matters.

Using your gift matters.

Caring when someone hurts matters.

Carrying someone else's burden matters.

Nothing done in genuine love for Christ is too small for Him to notice.