

ROMANS 12 – LOVE IN ACTION

Warm-up: What types of love are commonly meant when people talk about love? How many are feelings or emotions and how many are actions?

READ: Romans 12: 9-21

There are 21 commands here that express love. The verses have been entitled Love in Action.

1. Why should we as Christians show love? To whom should we show love? John 13:34-35, Gal 5:13-14.
2. Why did Sam say that "Love is the true measure of maturity"? How does showing love demonstrate that we are mature?
3. In verses 9-10, Paul talks about being genuine, not pretending and 'really' loving. How can we be sure that our love is genuine? (Think about its motive, its sacrificial nature, its consistency etc)
4. A little test - READ 1 Corinthians 13:4-6 – then try replacing your name for love in these verses. How do we stack up?
5. How real are we as a church or in our small groups? What things can hinder showing real love and concern for other Christians?
6. Christians are called to practise hospitality. Hospitality has been defined as the friendly and generous welcoming of guests, visitors or foreigners. Why is this so important? Why is it more than just providing a meal to someone?
7. Looking at verses 14 to 18, why might doing this make a difference in the world? What would it mean practically to live this out?
8. Read verse 21 again. Do we sometimes feel that evil is gaining the upper hand – that the world is becoming less loving, less moral. Can you give some examples? How can we not be overwhelmed by this evil?

Prayer: God, show me how I can make a difference in this world. Show me what new things you want me to do to show love.