

Love In Action:

July 2025

Hello again! Welcome to July's installment of our Love in Action Challenge. If you have any specific needs or prayer requests, please don't hesitate to reach out and/or post in the group for assistance.

To begin, be a good Berean. Check what I say against the inspired word of God, pray about it, and seek His guidance. Invite Holy Spirit to provide direction. If you recognize error, please let me know, as well:-).

Let's pray before going much further - Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, I ask that You open my eyes, ears, and soften my heart to receive what You have for me. You're my Helper Holy Spirit, so please help me as I walk out the life that You intend me to. Thank You and amen!

Let's start with 2 different scriptures which will set the stage for the rest:

Hebrews 10:23-25 - Let us hold resolutely to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to spur one another on to love and good deeds. Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

1 Corinthians 16:14 - Let everything you do be done in love [motivated and inspired by God's love for us].

This is ultimately a call to persevering, remaining rooted and strong, and to continue in walking in love and good deeds. Many of you are already living this way, as we should, but these monthly messages with text will be an additional reminder and encouragement to continue. My hope is that this will lead you to stepping out more in your day-to-day life and encourage you to observe and ask the Lord more about situations you can step in to and provide additional opportunities to be the light and salt as you reflect Jesus daily.

Love In Action (look to do one, or better yet all these this next month):

- 1. Deliberately make a point to get the door for someone today, smile at them, give a greeting. This could be at work or abroad. Often, I find people will share the struggles they are having (and wear it upon themself visibly) without you asking directly. Be a good listener and offer to pray with the person or silently do so.
- 2. Create a prayer card with uplifting scriptures and/or prayers. Send them to friends, family members, or even strangers who might need encouragement.
- 3. Walk around your neighborhood and ask the Lord to highlight a home to you. Then prayerfully consider what to send them letter of encouragement or similar and then place in mailbox next time you're walking or send in the mail.
- 4. Share a testimony with a stranger of what the Lord has done in your life or how you came to Him.

Note: I know sometimes people can be nervous about engaging others, but the key is to get the focus off yourself and on to the other person. In the many years I have been engaging people I rarely recall being turned away (most often turned away by religious people if I'm honest). If someone is angry at the church, I turn it back to Jesus and apologize that they had to go through what they did and offer to pray. These are truly great opportunities in disguise!

Questions for Individual/Group Contemplation:

In what situations do I find it hardest to trust in God's plan?

How can I apply the lessons from scripture to my current day and challenges in life?

How am I demonstrating Christ-like love to those around me?

What is something I am aware of that God is forming in me that I would like to share with others?

Quote to consider:

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present."

- Bill Keane

Closing:

If you have other ideas for Love in Action, send em my way and I'll consider adding them to the monthly list. There is a larger list on the website which I will often pull from and modify at times, so if you would like other ideas, look there.