



Prayer Journal **DAY 38**

"If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person? Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions."

1 John 3:17-18

Love is an action word. Read 1 John 3: 17-18 and notice the action words – live, sees, shows, say, love and show. In the beginning of this chapter, John reminds us that we are called to no longer live in sin but to live a righteous life following Jesus. Here, he reminds us that compassion is the catalyst for our actions that lead us to live righteously, and by doing so it is our proof that we are believers. Compassion stems straight out of love, and without love our faith is dead.

Love is an action word. Over and over, scripture boldly tells us to love one another. Jesus proclaims it most important in our faith second only to loving God our Father. Hearts of compassion require us to live in such a way that we see those who are hurting and in need. Through God's grace and mercy, we can show his love by not only what we say but in what we do. James tells us that faith without works is dead. John reminds us that works are meaningless without compassion. So often, we give or donate to those less fortunate, and there is no heart posture at the root of it.

Giving ourselves to Christ requires giving ourselves (or resources) to others with a heart posture of compassion that flows from acknowledging we would have nothing without God's love and provision. How much of a weight is lifted if that is the perspective when serving others in need? A big one. Today, as you walk out into your faith journey, consider this, too. Not only does our Heavenly Father call us to love with compassion, but He is our creator that wired humans right down to our neurons, for our brains to find physical joy in serving others with a compassionate heart posture.

What an awesome God we serve! Love is an action word that fuels our perfectly created design so that we can be the people we were called to be.

P R A Y E R

Heavenly Father, thank you for blessing us with all that we have. Teach us to open our hearts and hands to those in need. Help us to see our brothers and sisters with compassion and to act with love and truth, not just in words but in deeds. As our church family learns to see needs, may our collective efforts reflect your generosity and bring hope to those who are struggling. Unite us in purpose, reminding us to rely on you and let this campaign be a light that points others to your love and provision. Amen.

Written by: Rachel Thompson

