

LOVE IN ACTION

Sunday Evening Sermon at the Gulf Shores Church of Christ by Ray Reynolds (January 21, 2018)

Text: Romans 12:14-21

Introduction: You may remember a song by the group Alabama entitled “I’m in a Hurry.” We often get in such a hurry we forget important things. We forget to close the refrigerator door, turn off the lights, turn off the stove, shut off the water, or grab our bags. We should never get in such a hurry that we forget to show love. Love is expressed in action. Paul has much to say about putting our Christian love in action on a daily basis. Let’s consider what he says...

Discussion:

1) LOVE IN ACTION = BLESS OTHERS

¹⁴ Wish good for those who harm you; wish them well and do not curse them.

2) LOVE IN ACTION = REJOICE WITH OTHERS

¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy, and be sad with those who are sad.

3) LOVE IN ACTION = BE AT PEACE WITH OTHERS

¹⁶ Live in peace with each other. Do not be proud, but make friends with those who seem unimportant. Do not think how smart you are. AND ¹⁸ Do your best to live in peace with everyone.

4) LOVE IN ACTION = FORGIVE OTHERS

¹⁷ If someone does wrong to you, do not pay him back by doing wrong to him. Try to do what everyone thinks is right.

5) LOVE IN ACTION = SHOW MERCY TO OTHERS

¹⁹ My friends, do not try to punish others when they wrong you, but wait for God to punish them with His anger. It is written: “I will punish those who do wrong; I will repay them,” says the Lord.

6) LOVE IN ACTION = SERVE OTHERS

²⁰ But you should do this: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. Doing this will be like pouring burning coals on his head.”

7) LOVE IN ACTION = DO GOOD TO OTHERS

²¹ Do not let evil defeat you, but defeat evil by doing good.

Conclusion: It’s pretty clear that Paul knows what we need to do. This is all great advice! However, how can we do these things? We can look to Jesus. Jesus put His love in action. We can see this in His teaching, ministry, life, and death. It makes sense that we should be seeing the same thing in His church. If we are to be the body of Christ, we need to show love. Are you showing love in action? What can you do this week to show love? Have you surrendered to God’s love?