

You Want Me to Do What?

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” (1 John 4:7-8).

Everyone is familiar with the concept of love and while many readily declare their love for the Lord how often is it shown by caring or helping others? Over the last few years I have seen the love of many wax cold (“Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold” Matthew 24:12).

I think we can all agree that we see many make selfish decisions with no thought towards others. As Christians, we need to not conform to the worlds standards, but are to live in such a way that shows others God’s love through our actions.

It is not as easy as one might think to show love to others. Love is not just a feeling, it’s a choice and it’s one you need to make daily to operate in. Paul provides a poignant truth that the core of the Gospel is love.

“Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails” (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

Love suffers? Do you think he wrote that on a whim? Love suffers because it isn’t about you, but totally about others. Without love the aim of your life is futile. Your love for God should be the compelling force behind your participation in the Great Commission.

Your love for Him and others should dictate how you live your life. You can be God’s instruments in helping others follow Christ by random acts of kindness.

“By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother” (1 John 3:10, ESV).

Ask God to help you actively love others. Ask him to show you how to actively walk help someone who needs it. Ask Him to help you love them in the same way that God loves the difficult ones like you and me. Make a point this week to love on someone each day!

“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18).

Rev. Dr. Gina Cobb
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