

Short Talk

(SHT016)

Loving with actions

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ALL AGE WORSHIP
RESOURCES.ORG



SHORT TALK: “LOVING WITH ACTIONS” (SHT016)

Aim of Short talk:	To encourage people to “love with actions”
Main themes:	Loving others
Biblical references:	Matthew 22:39
Props:	Pictures either projected onto a screen or shown on large pieces of card.

Jesus said: “*Love your neighbour as yourself.*” (Matthew 22:39)

- so this morning I thought we could have a “love your neighbour quiz”

I will read out a question and I want you to decide what loving your neighbour would mean in each situation. OK?

1. While Karl is playing football in the playground he falls over and seriously cuts his knee. There is blood everywhere. Would loving your neighbour mean that you:
 - a) carry on playing football?
 - b) tell Karl that you are sorry he is hurt and that he had better hurry up and get to Welfare before lessons begin again? or
 - c) help Karl to Welfare and stay with him while his knee is dressed?

Who thinks the answer is a) – put your hands up?

- Who thinks the answer is b) – put your hands up?
- Who thinks the answer is c) – put your hands up?

It is c) isn't it? Karl needs help so taking him to Welfare would be loving your neighbour.

2. You get home from school to find that your younger brother is in tears. On the way home from his school a crowd of bullies has taken all his pocket money. Would loving your neighbour mean that you:
 - a) Ignore him....after all it is his own fault for taking his pocket money to school in the first place?
 - b) tell him how sorry you are that this has happened? or
 - c) Talk with your brother about what has happened and then give him some of your pocket money?

Who thinks the answer is a) – put your hands up?

- Who thinks the answer is b) – put your hands up?
- Who thinks the answer is c) – put your hands up?

It is c) isn't it? Your younger brother needs comfort so talking with him and giving him some of your pocket money would be loving your neighbour.

3. It has snowed for the last week and all the footpaths are slippery. Your next door neighbour is an elderly lady who cannot leave the house in this weather, and you know that she needs some shopping doing. Would loving your neighbour mean that you:
- go out and enjoy the snow all day?
 - tell your friend that your neighbour needs her shopping doing? or
 - go and see your neighbour and offer to do any shopping that she needs?

Who thinks the answer is a) – put your hands up?

- Who thinks the answer is b) – put your hands up?
- Who thinks the answer is c) – put your hands up?

It is c) isn't it? Your elderly neighbour needs help so going and doing some shopping for her is loving your neighbour.

And finally you are in church one Sunday when you hear about children in countries around the world who will have no Christmas presents this year. Would loving your neighbour mean that you:

- make out your Christmas list as soon as you get home from church?
- tell all your friends about how awful it must be for children around the world who won't have any Christmas presents this year? or
- spend some of your pocket money on a small gift to bring back to church the following week to be part of the Overseas Giving project? (*Insert relevant thing for your church*)

Who thinks the answer is a) – put your hands up?

- Who thinks the answer is b) – put your hands up?
- Who thinks the answer is c) – put your hands up?

It is c) isn't it? Children who live overseas and who have nothing need your support and so spending some of your money on a small gift for them is loving your neighbour.

You will notice that all the answers that showed love for your neighbour were the answers c,

- and the reason for this is that C is the first letter of the word called "Compassion"
- which simply means "Love in action".

It is easy to say, "I love you", but true love for our neighbour always shows itself in actions.

- Jesus showed us His love by being willing to die on the cross for our sins,
- the most incredible action that the world has ever seen.

Let us ask God to grow compassion in each one of our hearts,

- so that we can love our neighbours, whoever they may be
- with actions and not simply words.