

# 42: LOVE SHOWN THROUGH ACTION

By John Leavy

In Week 9: Discipleship at Home

3 Min read



***“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” — John 13:34-35***

God places difficult people along the trail to show us the limits of our love. You don't really know the strength of your love until it's tested. The question God wants answered: Will you love when it costs you something?

John 13:34–35 is direct: “Love one another: just as I have loved you... By this, all people will know that you are my disciples.” Not by knowledge. Not by intention. By love that is visible.

What's often left unsaid is how easily men reduce love to words. We say the right things. We mean well. But love, as Jesus defines it, is not measured in what a man feels or says—

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it's measured in what he does. On the trail, that looks like slowing your pace for another man, carrying weight that isn't yours, or staying when it would be easier to move on.

Most men don't reject love—they misunderstand it. They think it's soft, passive, or optional. But real love is costly. It requires attention, effort, and sacrifice. It shows up in ways that can't be ignored.

## **APPLICATION**

Love shown through action requires intention. It doesn't happen by accident. John 13:34–35 sets the standard—“as I have loved you.” That means a man doesn't define love on his terms. He looks at how Jesus lived and follows that pattern.

What's often left unsaid is how inconvenient that kind of love can be. It interrupts your plans. It asks for your time when you'd rather keep it. It calls you to step in when staying out would be easier. Many men say they value brotherhood, but when it costs something, they hesitate.

Love in action looks like showing up when no one asks. It looks like listening when there's nothing to gain. It looks like stepping into someone else's situation and carrying part of the weight. Not for recognition, not for credit—but because that's what disciples do.

This also applies at home. A man can say he loves his family, but if that love isn't visible in his actions, it won't be felt. Consistency matters. Presence matters. Small, repeated actions matter.

Love becomes real when it moves from words to practice. And when it does, people notice.

## **LIVE IT OUT**

This week, choose one intentional act of love. Don't announce it—just do it. Show up, serve, or carry something for someone else. Let your actions speak. Love is proven on the trail, not in talk. Walk it out, and others will see what real faith looks like through you.

### ***PRAY THIS..***

***“Lord, help me to show others Your love by my actions and not by my words.”***

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***Information lays the foundation—  
Practice builds the man.***

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