

Love is Action

Love is a verb. That's how we know we have passed out of death and into life. We know because we love one another. Love is action. You prove your love by loving your brothers right here in front of your eyes. Love is a verb — loving, acting, thinking about them, not entertaining accusations against them, thinking the best, forbearing with them. That's how we maintain that love.

Eph 4:2-3 — How do we have to be to do that? Can you do it if you are arrogant? If you are not completely humble? You can't do it unless you are completely humble. It says, "In *all* humility and meekness, lowliness." Does it say *most* or *all*? Is it 95% or 100%? Where are we in this verse? In *all* humility. You can't love a brother unless you are low. You can't love him up here (above him). You have to love him here (on the same level). You know his weaknesses, you know you're inclined the same way. We're all in the same boat.

That's how you maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We do this because we love one another. Do we forbear with one another in love? "In love" means *because* we love, we are forbearing with our brothers. You can't forbear with your brother whom you don't love. And that's how we know that we have passed out of death and into life. That's how we *know it*. We have that confidence. How do we *know it*? By the Spirit who confirms that in our hearts, that we have passed out of death into life because we are loving our brothers. If you are not loving your brothers, then the Spirit cannot confirm that you've passed out of death into life. You know it only by the Holy Spirit because He confirms that love.

People say, "How do you know you have passed out of death and into life?" "Because I love my brothers." "Well, how do you *know* you love them?" "Because I love my brothers." "Well, how do you *know* it?" You don't know it because you love your brothers, even though it says, "we know we've passed out of death because we love our brothers." But we know it by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit confirms it in our hearts. We can't just know it without the Holy Spirit. He confirms that you have passed out of death into life and no one can talk you out of it. That is confirmation that comes from our Father in Heaven to His people.

If we can love, it means we have passed out of death and into life. If we can't love, it means we haven't. Or else we're not loving because for some reason we're out of fellowship. That love is no longer manifest because we can't love unless we have *His* love. If you're out of fellowship you don't have access to His love. It says, "His love has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit." We love by the love that He has poured out. You know you're a son because you have love in your heart for your friend.

It's good that we would make ourselves lovable. It's like hating your brother if you don't make yourself lovable.

It's easy to love a brother who makes himself lovable. It's like the command that a wife is to desire her husband, so the husband needs to make himself desirable. A wife is to respect her husband, but a husband ought to make himself respectable. If you love your wife you will make yourself respectable, so she can respect you.

We are to submit to one another, so we've got to make ourselves worthy of submitting to.

Even if our brother is arrogant, we still have to love him. We've got to show him where he is wrong. We have to show him his fault and help him. Whom do you love the most, a person who is lovable or the person who is not lovable? It's easy to love a person who is lovable. So let's make it easy for one another.

It's wonderful that we have belonged to Him from the very beginning. He's not going to lose any of us. We're His sheep. If people have left it is because they weren't a part of *us* (1 Jn 2:19). Look at how many times it says *us*. It says it five times. We're a part of the *us*. It's our identity as a people. "They were not of *us*, so they left *us*, they kept away from *us* because they didn't belong to *us*, but if they had belonged to *us*, they wouldn't have kept away from *us*, they would have come back to *us*." That is what it says right there. There are some that can leave but they can't "stay left."

Our Father has given us a beautiful place here, a place to belong, a place to grow from. You are a little flock.

You can call yourselves the "Little Flock." Our Master says, "you are a little flock." He said, "Do not be afraid, little flock."

It's obvious that you have revelation. Our Master is disclosing Himself to you because you want to do His will and know His commandments. The world doesn't have His commandments, but we have them. They don't have them. Christianity thinks that they have them. He hasn't written His commandments in their hearts. He has written His commandments in our hearts. That is the new covenant. *"Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, proves his love for me."* He will disclose Himself to such a person — he will have revelation.

Whoever has been forgiven much will love much.