

Talk #8 ~ Christians Called to Action

The purpose of this talk is to help us see that we are now to be apostles - messengers of Christ's love to our communities and our world.

1. Read James 2:14-17. How can we begin to put our faith into action?
2. Read Matthew 25:31-46. According to this passage, what did the sheep do and the goats fail to do?
3. We need to treat each person we come into contact with as if that person were Jesus.
4. Who are some people in your life that you need to show God's love to?
5. Give a lot of very practical ways that we can all put our faith into action: Romans 12:4-8.
 - befriend someone who needs a friend
 - help the elderly in your neighborhood
 - visit people in nursing homes, hospitals, prisons
 - help your church put together a mission trip or service project
 - do something nice for you brother or sister
 - tutor someone who needs help with their studies
 - etc. etc.etc. etc. Give lots more suggestions.
6. Stress that we do not do good so that we can earn our salvation. Doing good for others is our response towards God's love. James 2:17 "In the same way, faith by itself, is not accompanied by action, is dead." We can not earn our salvation by serving and obeying God. But such actions show that our commitment to God is real. Deeds of loving service are not a substitute for, but rather a verification of our faith in Christ.
7. If the Spirit is working in our life, fruit should be evident - read Galatians 5:22-23.
8. Other scripture: Book of James, John 3:35, Matthew 6:1-4, 1 John 3:18.
9. Type up the words to your song and have them run off PRIOR TO THE WEEKEND (about 80 copies) to give to the tables so the weekenders can better understand their message as the song is being played.