

October 25, 2026

SUNDAY REFLECTION — Don't Just Say It

October Series: Love Your Neighbor

Week Focus: Don't Just Say It

Scripture – 1 John 3:18 – *“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”*

Devotional Reflection

This week began with a reminder that **LOVE MOVED FIRST**. Before we were called to demonstrate compassion, Jesus Christ demonstrated His love through His sacrifice. We were reminded that our service does not earn God's approval; it flows from the grace we have received through faith in Christ. As the week continued, we considered how the Holy Spirit transforms our hearts, helping us look beyond ourselves and recognize needs that might otherwise go unnoticed. We were challenged to refuse indifference, move beyond good intentions, and make the most of opportunities to do good. Every devotional brought us back to the same truth: **LOVE THAT IS REAL DOESN'T STOP AT WHAT WE SAY. IT BECOMES VISIBLE IN WHAT WE DO.**

In 1 John 3:18, John calls believers to love with actions and in truth. He is not suggesting that encouraging words, prayers, or expressions of affection are meaningless. Rather, he challenges us to ensure that what we say about love is supported by the way we live. Genuine Christian love is rooted in the truth of the gospel and demonstrated through sincere action. When Christ transforms our hearts, our compassion should increasingly become visible in our relationships, decisions, and willingness to serve others. Our faith should not remain disconnected from the way we treat people.

Our weekly challenge was simple: **ONE NEED. ONE RESPONSE. ONE ACT OF LOVE.** Perhaps you encouraged someone, provided assistance, checked on a family, or responded to a need you had previously overlooked. Perhaps God exposed an area where indifference, fear, or procrastination had been shaping your decisions. Or perhaps you were reminded that your faithful care for others already represents a meaningful expression of Christlike love. Whatever your experience, remember that spiritual transformation is not measured by perfection. We grow as we continue surrendering our hearts to Jesus Christ and allowing His Word to shape our actions. Our responsibility is not to solve every problem but to remain faithful to the opportunities He places before us.

As we gather for worship today, our October series concludes with FOR THE ONE (Luke 15:1–7). Throughout this month, we have been challenged to **LOOK AROUND — I SEE; START RIGHT HERE — I LOVE; and DON'T JUST SAY IT — I SERVE.** Now we turn our attention toward God's heart for those who are lost and our calling to reach them with the good news of Jesus Christ. The same Savior who teaches us to love and serve also calls us to care about people who need to know Him. Our acts of compassion should reflect His character, and our witness should faithfully point people toward the salvation found in Jesus Christ. **LET THE LOVE CHRIST HAS DEMONSTRATED TO US BECOME VISIBLE THROUGH OUR LIVES — FOR HIS GLORY ALONE.**

FOCUS FOR TODAY

Love that is real doesn't stop at what we say. It becomes visible in what we do.

I SEE. I LOVE. I SERVE.

PRACTICE

- Reflect on how Christ's sacrificial love has shaped your heart this week.
 - Consider the need you recognized and the response you made.
 - Prepare your heart for today's message, **FOR THE ONE**, by praying for those who need to know Jesus Christ.
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PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for demonstrating Your love through Jesus Christ. Forgive us for the times our words have been stronger than our actions. Continue transforming our hearts so that we recognize needs, respond with compassion, and serve with wisdom and humility. As we gather for *FOR THE ONE*, deepen our concern for people who need to know Jesus. Use Life Transformation Church to make Your love visible throughout Roselle and beyond.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTION

How has Christ's love shaped the way I recognize and respond to people's needs, and how can that same love deepen my concern for those who need the gospel?