



The **†=♥** is an action, but it isn't only something you do—it can be the lens that helps you see the world in a new light. A favor you offer to someone may not seem very big to you. In fact, it might feel quite dull. God can use any act of kindness, big or small, as a way to share His love.

Here are 15 ideas to help you start loving like Jesus today. But don't let the transformative power stop at the end of your hand. Let this be an opportunity for you to experience the life-changing impact in your heart, too.

### **Hands and Feet**

Put others first. Give up a parking place close to the door for the car behind you. Let someone in the checkout line go ahead of your cart. Open doors for people.

Volunteer to babysit for free for a couple or single parent who might need a night out.

Send a financial gift or care package to a student, missionary or a soldier.

Cook a meal for a new mom, someone sick, or who had surgery or maybe struggling with stress. Make yourself available to help someone move to another house or city.

### **Heart to Heart**

Take the first five minutes after you walk in the door to make eye contact with your spouse and ask them about their day. Try it with your children or upon meeting a friend.

Instead of telling someone you will pray for them, type out your prayer and send it in a text or email. Think of someone who has helped shape your views on love and send them a text/email letting them know about the example of Christ they passed onto you.

Put a note of encouragement in the mail. Make a monthly goal to write grateful letters. And while you're at, write "thank you" on the inside of your mailbox for the mail carrier to see every day.

Take the time to engage in a conversation with the person sitting next to you at a sporting event, your child's game or practice, or even on a plane.

Ask a coworker or friend to go to lunch with you and listen to their story. Is there someone right in front of you who could use a few words of appreciation or encouragement? Maybe a friend, a bus driver, teacher, or cashier?

## **Sharing the Love**

Share the love of Christ by inviting people to church. Introduce yourself to your waiter or waitress. Tell them thanks for the excellent service then leave a great tip and an invite to church card on the table. Take the opportunity to meet the people you interact with regularly at service businesses like the grocery store, dry cleaners, coffee shop, hair salon or the gas station. Get to know them and invite them to church at a specific time and tell them they can sit with YOU!

Pay for the person behind you at the coffee shop, or put a few dollars toward their bill. Leave your church invite card with the person at the register to pay it forward or drop an invite into the tip jar with some cash.

Give up your place on the waitlist at a restaurant to a family walking in. Pick out a table at the restaurant and ask the waiter to put \$5 toward their meal and include your church invite. Try this idea at a gas station by putting money toward a pump next to you.

Instead of counting calories, count your smiles. Be intentional with your smile; it's contagious. A smile shares joy and warmth. Smile while you're jogging or walking. Wave at people passing by. Greet someone with a smile when you walk through the door. And for the record, laughing burns calories!

Include people. When you see someone sitting alone in church, invite them to sit next to you. When you're in a restaurant say to your server: "We're about to pray for our meal is there anything you want us to pray about?"