

B. Express pain as _____ instead of anger.

C. Allow your spouse _____ to warm up to an idea.

4.  _____ YOUR MATE'S FEELINGS AS _____

Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. ROMANS 12:15

REASONS WE DON'T ACCEPT OUR MATE'S FEELINGS:

- A. To _____ them is to condone them.
- B. It negates our _____ to be angry with them.
- C. It encourages the permanency of that _____.
- D. We fail to _____ the feelings as a starting place for discovery.
- E. We fail to _____ beyond faults to see needs.

CONCLUSION: _____

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. ROMANS 12:21

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HIS DESIGN | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6 | WEEK 12

LESSON 12: **MERCY IN ACTION**

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. 1 JOHN 3:16-18

INTRODUCTION: _____

1.  UNDERSTANDING THE BENEFITS OF _____

A. Actions are a means of _____ real love.

QUOTE: "Your mate can always see your love by your actions. She may not see your feelings, understand your words, or even believe them; but there is no disputing the love behind actions."

B. Actions are not dependent on _____.

C. Actions show a sacrificial _____.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. JOHN 3:16

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; EPHESIANS 5:25

D. Actions _____ more love.

Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established. PROVERBS 16:3

QUOTE: "If you want to love your mate more fervently, then learn to give yourself more frequently."

E. Actions _____ God's means of ministry.

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. ROMANS 5:5

2. LEARNING TO _____ THE INITIATIVE

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; MATTHEW 5:44

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. GALATIANS 6:1

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. GALATIANS 6:10

We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. ROMANS 15:1

QUESTIONS:

A. Who knows the _____ of your mate better than you do?

B. Who has a better _____ to help than you do?

C. Whom has God _____ for this task other than you?

3. EXERCISING VERBAL _____

A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards. PROVERBS 29:11

The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law. DEUTERONOMY 29:29

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. JOHN 16:12

And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-3

QUOTE: "Merciful communication in marriage means to share truth with your mate to accommodate his particular perception and not to harm in any way. It is an action that is tempered with the knowledge of its effect on the hearer."

A. Express your pain as _____ instead of anger.

A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. PROVERBS 15:1