

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

*READ:* 1 John 3:11-18

While waiting for a train at a station in Atlanta, Georgia, a young man wearing dress pants and a button-down shirt sat on a bench. As he struggled with his tie, an older woman encouraged her husband to help. When the elderly man hunched over and began teaching the young man how to knot the tie, a stranger took a photo of the trio. When this photo went viral online, many viewers left comments about the power of random acts of kindness.

For believers in Jesus, kindness to others reflects the self-sacrificing care that He showed for people like us. It's an expression of God's love and what He desired His disciples to live out: "We should love one another" (1 John 3:11 emphasis added). John equates hating a brother or sister to murder (v. 15). Then he turns to Christ as an example of love in action (v. 16).

It doesn't have to be an extravagant display of sacrifice. Selfless love simply requires us to acknowledge the value of all God's image-bearers by placing their needs above our own . . . every day. Those seemingly ordinary moments when we care enough to notice the needs of others and do what we can to help are selfless when we're motivated by love. When we see beyond our personal space, step out of our comfort zones to serve others, and give—especially when we don't have to give—we're loving like Jesus.

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*REFLECT:* When have you experienced selfless love from someone? How can you love others selflessly this week?

*PRAY:* *Loving Father, please help me see people with a heart ready to extend compassion and selfless love wherever You send me.*

### **PRAYER SUGGESTIONS:**

- Lord, help us to see outside ourselves; to see those immediately around us who are hurting or in need. Help us respond quickly to Your urging to offer help, a compliment, a smile, or a kind word.
- Thank you, Father, for allowing us to participate in your grand plan for the world. We want to be prayer partners with you but also "boots on the ground", doing your work your way—the Jesus way. Help us BE the love of Christ in your world.
- Scripture tells us that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to us for everyday living and for Kingdom service. We rejoice today in the Resurrection and the "life abundant" which we enjoy right now through faith in Christ!
- Pray for children and teenagers in our community, especially those who know hunger, need guidance, or are experiencing family conflict or domestic violence. Ask God to intervene and send helpers, and show us ways we can help.

## CHURCH AT PRAYER

### Current Health Issues:

Joyce Anderson's daughter Cheryl & grand-daughter Kim  
Ed Bachus  
Linda Banks' mother & friend Loretta Martin  
Jean (Les) Bell  
Karen Bowser's granddaughter, Laura  
Clark & Jean Brillhart's friend, Shirley  
Roger Carey's friend, Chris Z.  
Diane Cooper's friends, Jamie B., Ed F. and Terry  
Charlie Costello's great-granddaughter, Scarlett  
Dawn Durling  
Barbara Eisenbach's friends, Mike K. & Rev. Richard Adams  
Carol Ernst  
Diane (Richard) Grant, her sister, Barbara, & brother-in-law, Herb  
Ray & Gayle Green's daughter, Samantha, & grandson Melvin  
Barbara Harding  
Mildred Hartman  
Ron Kelly  
Mary Keogh's sister, Calista  
Joan Kraftchak's neighbor, Chris  
Sharon Layman's friend, Bill, & sister, Robin DeRosa  
Juanita Leioatts' & sister Shirley  
Betty Letrick  
Lulu Llewellyn  
Doreen Lynch's brother, Richard, friends; Jessica, Judy, Chris, & neighbors, Linda & Al  
Marshall (Patsy) McCammack  
Cornelia Mills' daughter, Dawn and son-in-law, Charles  
Kathy Morrison  
Bobbi Mosley's nephew Sean  
Dan Sharrow & his friend, Charlie  
Ralph Smith  
June Taylor's daughter, Cheri  
Norma (Al) Tebbs' friend, Esther  
Juanita & Bill Welsh  
Jane Wilson  
Carol Wise and her son, Jimmy  
Julie Wylie, and grandson, Austin

### Persistent/Chronic Illness:

Pam Carter  
Pat (John) Carroll  
Stan (Helga) LaVoque

### Homebound/Care facilities:

Ray Bratberg

### Grieving:

Family & friends of Juanita Leioatts on the death of her sister, Suzy (4/25)



### Team Members:

Joyce Anderson, Clark Brillhart, Jane Capo, Pat Carroll, Sally Clark, Barbara Eisenbach, Juanita Welsh (Rev. Jeff Wood)

**Pray with us:** Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m.  
To request prayer, contact the office or speak to a team member.

### Prayer Teaching:

4th Tuesday of the Month at 9:30 a.m.