

Dollars & Sense—Action  
Study Questions

1 John 3:16-8; Romans 12:9-13; James 2:14-16

Warm-up

1) Describe a time someone did something that meant a lot to you—to the point that you wished you could somehow repay them. If someone were to put a price on that action, it probably wouldn't cover all of what it meant to you. **Why was that action so meaningful to you—what do you value from it that could not be bought with money?**

A little deeper

2) [1 John 3:16-18] We are called to help brothers and sisters in need, not just with words but with action and in truth. **What examples can you give of “brothers and sisters in need” from your own experience?**

**What are some ways someone might be able to help them?**

3) [Romans 12:9-10] Love in action includes honoring others above ourselves. **What are some mundane examples of ways in which someone can honor others above themselves?**

**What are some more extravagant examples of this?**

4) [Romans 12:11-13] Describe a situation of love in action you've witnessed that illustrates one or more of the exhortations in these verses.

5) [James 2:14-16] Well-wishes and politeness are not enough to fill someone's hungry belly or clothe and shelter them from the cold. **Why are we sometimes hesitant to give people basic things they need when we clearly have the means?**

**Which of these reasons are well-founded, and which may deserve further consideration in certain cases?**

Bringing it home

6) In order to put love into action, we need to be ready to give of ourselves in every aspect. **Do you find it easier to give of your prayers, your wisdom, your time, your effort, or your money?**

**In which ways is it often harder for you to give?**

7) Most of us like to buy things at a discount to their “usual” price. However, few of us remember to consider the value of securing more intangible things: relief from suffering, human dignity, or the potential to reveal another sliver of God's glory. **What is an investment you might have made differently if you considered its full value from the point of view of how it would profit God's Kingdom, rather than being concerned primarily with how much it cost?**