

DEMONSTRATIONS OF BIBLICAL DOCTRINES THROUGH ACTIONS

*10 People Who Lived Their Faith — A Youth Guide to Doctrine in
Action*

Compassion • Faith • Forgiveness • Worship • Generosity • Loyalty

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Table of Contents

Introduction: Faith You Can See.....	3
1. The Good Samaritan — Compassion in Action.....	4
2. Abraham — Faith and Obedience.....	6
3. Moses — Servanthood and Leadership.....	8
4. Mary of Bethany — Worship and Sacrifice.....	10
5. Joseph — Forgiveness.....	12
6. Philip — Evangelism and Compassion.....	13
7. The Father — Compassion and Restoration.....	14
8. The Early Church — Generosity in Community.....	15
9. Abraham — Hospitality to Strangers.....	16
10. Ruth — Loyal Love.....	18
Closing Thought.....	20

Introduction: Faith You Can See

It's one thing to know a Bible truth. It's another thing to live it out loud. Here are ten biblical examples of God's servants who demonstrated spiritual truths through visible actions, cultural practices, or symbolic acts — just as Jesus Christ demonstrated humble love by washing the disciples' feet.

*“Now if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.” — **John 13:14-15***

Each story below shows a real person applying a strategy, a principle, a pattern, or a concept — turning doctrine into demonstration. As you read, ask yourself: where could I do the same thing this week?

1. The Good Samaritan — Compassion



Moved with compassion toward the wounded man.

Doctrine: Love is practical action, not merely words or status. **Luke 10:30-37**

“My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.” — **1 John 3:18**

Principle

Beyond prejudice (Jews and Samaritans were enemies), he accepted his responsibility under a bigger concept: neighborliness.

Reference: **Luke 10:36-37** [*“Which then of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves? And he said, He that showed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.”* – NKJV]

Demonstration

The Samaritan cared for the wounded man, bandaged him, carried him, and paid for his stay. He was willing to sacrifice comfort and resources for another person.

Reference: **Luke 10:33-35** [*“But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the*

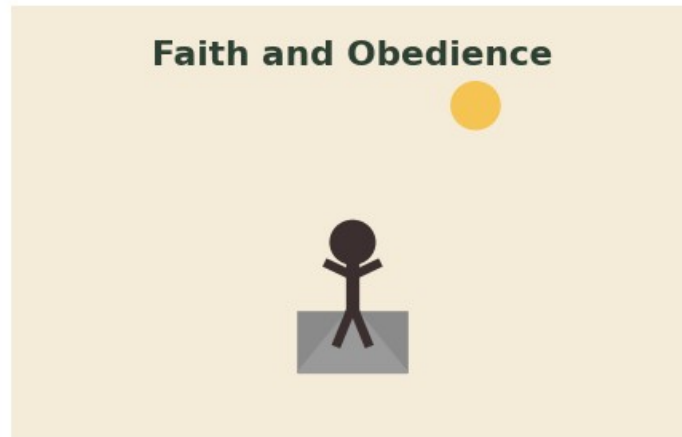
host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.” - NKJV]

Lesson

A compassionate neighbor crosses social, racial, and religious barriers. Jesus said, “Go and do likewise.”

Try It This Week: *Notice someone today who is overlooked or inconvenient to help — and help them anyway.*

2. Abraham — Faith and Obedience



Through his obedience, he showed his love for God by offering Isaac.

Doctrine: Faith trusts God completely, even without understanding, and obeys His command. **Genesis 22:1-18; Hebrews 11:17-19**

Concept

Love for God is expressed through obedient action — trusting and acting according to God's will.

Reference: Hebrews 11:18-19 [*“Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.” - NKJV*]

Demonstration

Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac in obedience to God.

Lesson

Biblical faith produces obedient action prompted by love. This genuine love believes in God's promise and His instruction.

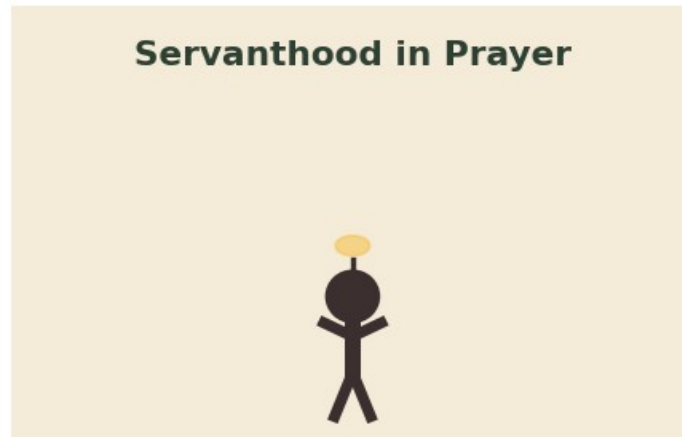
Reference: Genesis 12:2a [*“And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great.” - NKJV*]

Reference: Genesis 22:2-3 [*“And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell*

thee of. And Abraham rose up early in the morning... and went unto the place of which God had told him.” - NKJV]

Try It This Week: *Obey one thing God has clearly told you to do, even if you don't yet understand the whole picture.*

3. Moses — Servanthood and Leadership



Moses interceding for Israel.

Doctrine: Spiritual leadership serves sacrificially and intercedes for others.
Exodus 32:11-14, 30-32; Psalm 106:23

“Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.” — Psalm 106:23

Strategy

Moses based his prayer on who God is, not on the worthiness of the people.

Principles Moses Used in Prayer

His intercession was not emotional pleading alone. It was rooted in covenant, in God's character, and in sacrificial leadership.

Reference: Exodus 32:13 [*“Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever.” – NKJV*]

Reference: Numbers 14:17-20 [*“And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken... Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy... And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word.” – NKJV*]

Reference: Exodus 32:32 [*“Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.” - NKJV*]

Demonstration

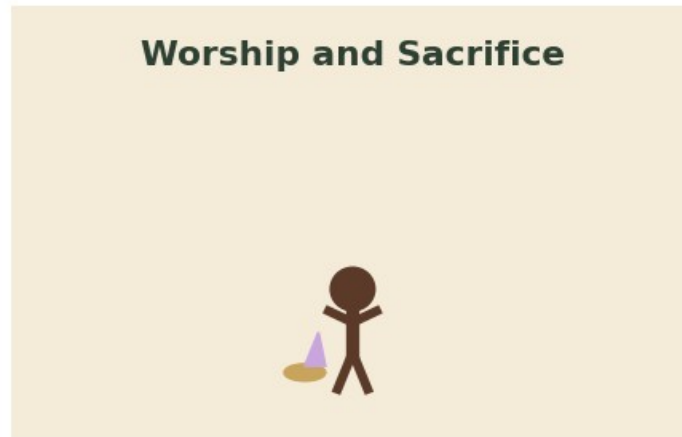
Moses prayed and stood before God on behalf of sinful Israel after the golden calf incident. Instead of abandoning them, he asked for mercy.

Lesson

A godly leader, motivated by love, carries the burdens of the people. It reminds us of loyalty and deep spiritual responsibility. The principles Moses practiced in his prayer are examples for us to follow.

Try It This Week: *Pray by name for someone who has disappointed you, instead of writing them off.*

4. Mary of Bethany — Worship and Sacrifice



Mary of Bethany anointing Jesus.

Doctrine: True worship gives costly devotion to Christ. Devotion is an expression of deep love. **John 12:1-8**

"There came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head... and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment."
— **Mark 14:3; John 12:3**

Concept

Love through sacrificial giving. She gave something valuable without calculating personal benefit.

Demonstration

Mary poured expensive perfume on Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair, an act of humility and self-emptying.

Reference: **John 12:3** [*"Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment."* – NKJV]

Lesson

Love for Christ is expressed through sacrificial worship without expecting worldly personal benefit.

Try It This Week: *Give something costly — your time, money, or comfort — to God this week, without expecting credit.*

5. Joseph — Forgiveness



Joseph forgiving his brothers.

Doctrine: Godly forgiveness releases bitterness and shows mercy. It creates reconciliation. **Genesis 45:1-15; Genesis 50:19-21**

"Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." — Ephesians 4:32

Concept

How God used this situation.

Demonstration

Joseph forgave the brothers who sold him into slavery and cared for them during the famine, because he focused only on the will of God. So he made a classic statement:

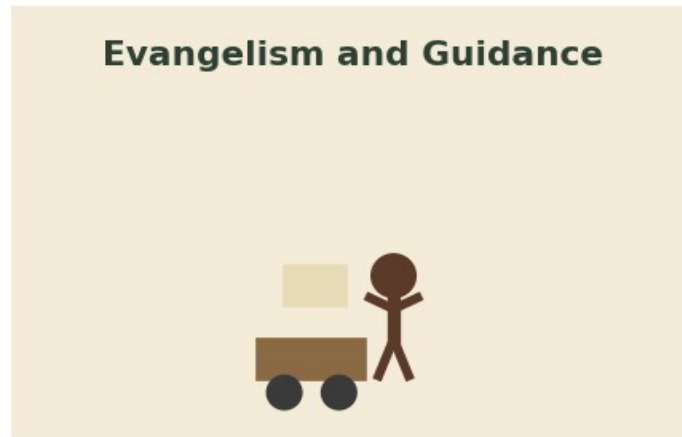
"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."
— **Genesis 50:20**

Lesson

Forgiveness reflects God's grace and loving-kindness. We also have to understand God's sovereignty over the affairs of men.

Try It This Week: Release one grudge this week by choosing — on purpose — not to bring it up again.

6. Philip — Evangelism and Compassion



Philip the Evangelist and the Ethiopian.

Doctrine: Evangelism involves personal guidance and obedience to the Spirit. **Acts 8:26-39**

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" — Romans 10:14

Principle: Starting-Point Principle

He listened before teaching. Philip did not begin with a prepared speech or an unrelated topic. He started with the Ethiopian's own question about the passage he was already reading — Isaiah 53.

Demonstration

Philip approached the Ethiopian official, explained Scripture, and baptized him.

Lesson

God uses willing servants to lead others to Christ with loving care and a desire to help them. We do not merely give information — we understand where people are in their intellectual and spiritual life.

Try It This Week: *Before you share your faith with someone this week, ask one good question and actually listen to the answer.*

7. The Father — Compassion and Restoration



The father of the prodigal son.

Doctrine: God's love welcomes repentant sinners. **Luke 15:11-32**

"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy... For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust." — Psalm 103:8, 14

Concept: Compassion Before Condemnation

Love sees the person before seeing the failure.

Demonstration

The father ran, embraced, and restored his returning son. He did not show love randomly, but through intentional action.

Lesson

Genuine love restores broken relationships. It patiently waits with hope for the return of loved ones, and it restores dignity, not just circumstances.

Try It This Week: *Reach out first to someone you've been waiting on to apologize — be the one who runs toward them.*

8. The Early Church — Generosity in Community



Community sharing.

Doctrine: Generosity is selfless, sacrificial, and willing giving. **Acts 2:44-47; 4:32-35**

Pattern

The pattern was not only what they gave, but how they approached giving.

The early believers shared possessions. The Macedonian church community shared (a) with abundance of joy when they were in deep poverty and great trial of affliction, (b) in riches of their liberality, giving according to their ability and beyond their ability, and (c) freely and willingly, because they first gave themselves to the Lord and then to others.

"For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves... and not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God." — 2 Corinthians 8:3, 5

Lesson

Generosity developed into a lifestyle of giving. These three elements were highlighted and summed up by Paul as our concept of giving, prompted by God's love.

Try It This Week: *Give something this week before you're asked — and give it cheerfully, not out of guilt.*

9. Abraham — Hospitality to Strangers



Abraham welcoming strangers.

Doctrine: Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers. **Genesis 18:1-8**

“Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” — **Hebrews 13:2**

Principle

Ancient Near Eastern hospitality culture.

Demonstration

He followed a principle and a way of thinking that demonstrated love in action — that is, initiative, serving, and giving the best with generosity.

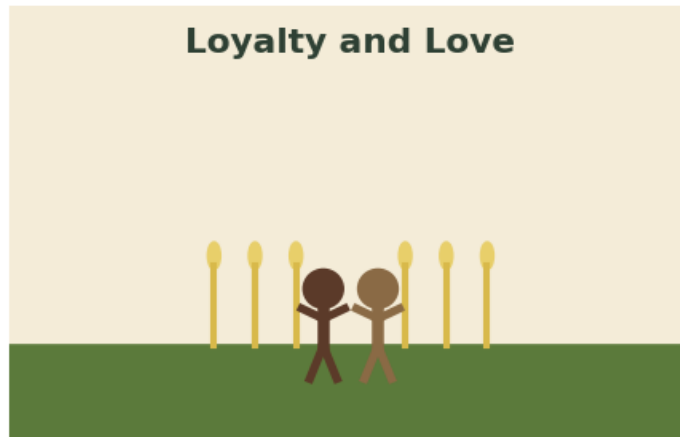
Reference: Genesis 18:6-8 [*“And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth. And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it. And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.” - NKJV*]

Lesson

Welcoming and caring for strangers matters. We may never know how God uses acts of kindness.

Try It This Week: *Welcome someone new — a new student, neighbor, or visitor — like they're the most important guest of the week.*

10. Ruth — Loyal Love



Ruth stayed with Naomi.

Doctrine: Love through commitment and covenant faithfulness. **Ruth 1:16-17**

"Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried." — Ruth 1:16-17

Principle

Ruth's choice can be understood as covenant love. Instead of acting based on convenience, she chose relationship responsibility.

Demonstration

She left her homeland and culture and worked in the field to provide for Naomi.

Reference: **Ruth 2:2-3, 17-18** [*"And Ruth said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace... So she gleaned in the field until even... and brought it... and gave to her that she had reserved after she was sufficed." - NKJV*]

Lesson

Love is more than feelings — it is commitment. Love acts and serves practically in difficult circumstances.

Try It This Week: *Stay loyal to someone this week even when it costs you convenience or comfort.*

Closing Thought

Ten people. Ten different situations. One thread running through all of them: doctrine that moved from the head into the hands.

None of them waited until they felt ready, until it was convenient, or until someone was watching. They simply did the next faithful thing love required.

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” — **Matthew 5:16**

Faith that is real will always be visible.