



Love in Action

March 1, 2015

Pastor Chris Hill

Closing the Gap Between Intentions and Actions

1. If you think something good, _____ it.

¹ How beautiful your sandaled feet, O prince's daughter! Your graceful legs are like jewels, the work of an artist's hands. ² Your navel is a rounded goblet that never lacks blended wine. Your waist is a mound of wheat encircled by lilies. ³ Your breasts are like two fawns, like twin fawns of a gazelle.
Song of Songs 7:1-3 (NIV2011)

Your head crowns you like Mount Carmel. Your hair is like royal tapestry; the king is held captive by its tresses.
Song of Songs 7:5 (NIV2011)

⁷ Your stature is like that of the palm, and your breasts like clusters of fruit. ⁸ I said, "I will climb the palm tree; I will take hold of its fruit." May your breasts be like clusters of grapes on the vine, the fragrance of your breath like apples,
Song of Songs 7:7-8 (NIV2011)

I belong to my beloved, and his desire is for me.
Song of Songs 7:10 (NIV2011)

2. If you think something special, _____ it.

- Purposeful _____

Come, my beloved, let us go to the countryside, let us spend the night in the villages.
Song of Songs 7:11 (NIV2011)

Let us go early to the vineyards to see if the vines have budded, if their blossoms have opened, and if the pomegranates are in bloom— there I will give you my love.
Song of Songs 7:12 (NIV2011)

- Thoughtful _____

The mandrakes send out their fragrance, and at our door is every delicacy, both new and old, that I have stored up for you, my beloved.
Song of Songs 7:13 (NIV2011)

3. If you want something different, _____ it

Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm; for love is as strong as death, its jealousy unyielding as the grave. It burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame.
Song of Songs 8:6 (NIV2011)

My Next Step Today Is To...

- Turn my intentions into actions.
- Commit to do some "purposeful time" or "thoughtful acts" this week.
- Create a list today that identifies how I can say, do, and be what it takes to "close the gap." Then set a time this week to go over my list and make a plan
- Receive Jesus as my Savior and Lord.

**Love in Action****March 1, 2015**

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

- “Ah, just let ‘em soak!” or, “There’s no time like the present!” When it comes to doing dishes, which type are you?
- Have you ever “scared away the fawns” because you shared a compliment that backfired? What was the result?
- Is it harder for you to give or receive words of affirmation? What makes it so difficult for you?
- What are some intentions you haven’t turned into actions? How could you close that gap?
- What’s the difference between reacting and acting? Give examples of times when this was handled well.

For Singles

- What big takeaways have you gotten from this series?
- What good things have come out of making changes in your relationships based on what you’ve learned from this series.
- Is it easier for you to say something special or do something special? Which do you prefer most in return?

- Do you see patterns in the ways others let you down? Explore the connections between what you desire and what you offer.
- Describe how you can apply the say it, do it and be it principles to workplace interactions, friendships, and family relationships.

For Married Couples

- What do you find yourself wanting most from your spouse: being pursued, included, thought of, romanced, helped, or given to? What things seem less important to you?
- Brag on the best ways your spouse closes the gap between intentions and actions. Tell each other which ones are intentional efforts and which just come naturally.
- What will you do to keep working on your marriage in the future? What big takeaway did you get from this series?
- Identify some ideas together for ways to put love into action.

Call to Action

- What are some “purposeful time” or “thoughtful acts” ideas you commit to do this week?
- Use paper or your mobile device to create a list of how you can say, do, and be what it takes to “close the gap.” Set a time this week to go over your list and make a plan.