



# BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – September, 2019

## “LABOURING TOGETHER WITH GOD”

*“What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have only purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God’s fellow workers, you are God’s field, God’s building.”*  
 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

The word labor in Greek is *kopiaiw kopiao kop-ee-ah'-o* It means to 1) to grow weary, tired, exhausted (with toil or burdens or grief) 2) to labour with wearisome effort, to toil.

Labouring for the Lord needs *strength of desire*. God’s work involves many different individuals with a variety of gifts and abilities. As team members performing our own special roles, we are useful members of God’s team by setting aside our own desire to receive glory for what we accomplish, and seek approval from God alone. Do we use our abilities and spiritual gifts to build up others or do we keep them tied to ourselves?

God allows us to be co-labourers with Him in His great work on this earth. Working together with the Lord allows for *diversity* in our service but in the end it is God who gives the increase.

As co-labourers we have *unity* in our purpose as we are all part of God’s great plan. We must have the same view as we are merely servants and Jesus is the Lord of the harvest.

As co-labourers, we must also reflect *humility* of spirit. It is only through our sovereign God that saved us and commanded us to labour with Him. Only He can bless our human efforts so lives are saved.

Not only does God want us to be co-labourers in saving souls but He wants us to exhibit the fruits of the spirit produced in our individual lives (Galatians 5:22-23).

## LABOUR DAY— WHY DO WE CELEBRATE?

Although Labour Day has evolved into just another long week-end marking the end of summer holidays, its origin celebrates the achievements of works. Its origins can be traced to the labour union movement, specifically the 8 hour day movement, which advocated eight hours of work, eight hours of recreation, and eight hours of rest each day. Labour Day is observed around the world by countries on various dates.

In Canada, it began as a massive working-class demonstration in Toronto triggered by the rapidly and dramatically changing economic and industrialized landscape. Automated machinery began to replace manual labour and the special skills offered by workers were no longer as valuable or efficient. Complaints about long working hours, unsafe working conditions and low working wages generally resulted in job loss or demotion. Unions were illegal in Canada, as archaic British labour laws were still in effect at the time, so workers were subject to the authority of their employers or forced to find work elsewhere.



No matter where you find yourself this Labour Day, please take a moment to reflect upon Canada’s labour pioneers. Their actions laid the foundations for future labour movements and helped works secure the rights and benefits enjoyed today.

## BRIDGES OF LOVE’S HIGH RIVER OFFICE LANDLINE PHONE



403.649.0087

Bridges of Love’s office and resources are now unpacked and organized. As well, hubby Tom is recuperating well from the triple by-pass surgery. We are ready and set to serve our communities through our Faith Emergency Preparedness Initiative (FEPI) and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training.

It is indeed an adventure to labour together with God as we continue to build Bridges of Love. It really is like putting on an old and comfortable shoe as High River truly feels like home after six short weeks of residence. We are so very grateful that God brought us here, so we now pray and look forward to whatever He has planned, as we serve Him.