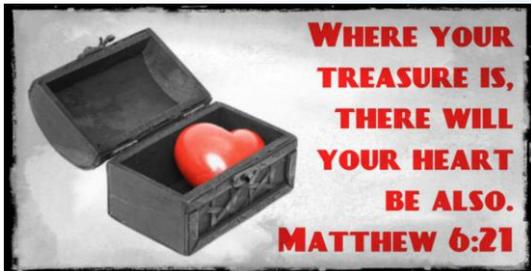




# BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – December, 2018

**“FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO.” Matthew 6:21**



Jesus is clear that having treasures not focused on Him, leads our hearts in the wrong direction. What we treasure the most is what controls us! Jesus calls for a decision that allows us to live contentedly with whatever we have and to place eternal values over temporary, earthly treasures.

In 1677, twenty-seven year old Henry Scougal wrote this to a friend: “The worth and excellency of a soul is to be measured by the object of its love” (The Life of God in the Soul of Man, 20).

It is difficult to dismiss where our pleasures lie because pleasure is the measure of our treasure. We know that what we truly treasure is what we really love. Henry Scougal was right: the object of our love, the treasure we passionately want, measures the worth and condition of our soul.

### **Have we lost our first love and the power of God?**

Do we have little or no time with Jesus; more concerned with ourselves and our personal desires than concerned about the things that concern Him? Are we willing to give our time, energy, and money to a sporting event or some sort of entertainment, than to the things of God?

It is a dangerous thing to go through the motions of Christianity without a passionate love for Christ. What Jesus wants is for us to love Him like He loves us. He demonstrated that love for us on the cross when He suffered and died for us, bearing our sins on Calvary’s cross. Not because he was forced to, but because of His love for us and His desire to bring us into relationship with the Father.

We know the things and pleasures of this life are temporal and the older we become, the quicker this life passes. This Christmas season, let us go back to when we first met Jesus, remembering the love we felt and the adoration we had for the Saviour – back to our first LOVE.

### **CALIFORNIA WILD FIRES, 2018**

“This event was the worst-case scenario,” Butt County Sheriff Kory Honea said, “It’s the event that we have feared for a long time.”



Reading the many accounts from the latest devastating California wild-fires, one story particularly stood out. It was regarding a son searching for his 75 year old mother, a widow whose house burned down, along with the rest of her neighbourhood. She lived alone and did not drive.

The son posted a flyer on social media, pinned it to bulletin boards at shelters, and showed her picture to evacuees asking if anyone recognized her. He ran across a few of her neighbours, but no one had seen her.

As he drove through the smoke and haze to yet another shelter, his thoughts were on the worst case scenario, but he knew she was a smart resourceful woman, so he held out hope of finding her...

As I read this account from one member of the devastated community, I wondered if the outcome could have been different if a CERT member lived in close proximity. Would she be safe in an evacuation centre, due to the efforts of a trained volunteer, who took the time to learn basic emergency skills and information to assist in times of disaster? CERTs are trained to know their community, and who might be the most vulnerable and need an extra hand, should a catastrophic event happen in their locality.

**CERTs, doing the greatest good for the greatest number**

**NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS**



Alert Ready is Canada's emergency alerting system. Alert Ready delivers critical and potentially life-saving alerts to Canadians through television, radio, and LTE-connected and compatible wireless devices.

The Alert Ready system was developed with many partners, including federal, provincial, and territorial emergency management officials, Environment and Climate Canada, Pelmorex, the broadcasting industry and wireless service providers.

Together these providers work to ensure Canadians receive alerts immediately to know when to take action to stay safe.

### **What should I do if I receive an emergency alert?**

- ✓ Upon receiving an emergency alert it is important to take action safely. Alerting authorities will include within the emergency alert the information you need, including any action you need to take. This could include, but is not limited to: limit unnecessary travel, evacuate areas, shelter-in-place, etc.

**For More Information:**

<https://www.alertready.ca/>