

Caring When You Don't Feel Like Caring

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Introduction

I. The Call to Care

II. The Challenges to Caring

III. Caring and the Emotions

A. How not to deal with not feeling like caring

B. The emotions must be involved

“It will surely not be challenge if we say that love is both emotive and motive; love is feeling and it impels action... Since love is in the category of feeling which creates affinity with the object and constrains the outflow of affection for the object, the fulfillment which love constrains is not the fulfillment of coerced or unwilling formal compliance, but the fulfillment of cheerful and willing obedience. Without such constraining and impelling love there is really no fulfillment of the law. The Law prescribes the action, but love it is that constrains or impels action involved” (John Murray, *Principles of Conduct*, 22).

C. Christian care requires that we feel like caring

“The emotions are an inherent part of what it means to be a person; they express the values and evaluations of a person and influence motives and conduct” (*Feelings and Faith*, 26).

IV. When We Don't Feel Like Caring

A. Check our own hearts first

B. Keep the proper priority and relationship between truth and the emotions

C. Loving care and faith

Application