

LOVE AND EVANGELISM

1 Corinthians 13: 1-3; John 13: 34,35

Paul reminds us in 1 Cor 13 that no amount of knowledge, skill or technique in [evangelism] can ever be a substitute for pure love.

Jesus, in the midst of a lengthy explanation of His impending death on the world's behalf, gives the disciples in John 13 the 'new' command to love each other as he has loved them, and indicates that this will be the convincing evidence to the world that they are indeed His disciples.

1. "Nothing is more important than love. But how do you do it? How do you build a life of real deep love?" What answers might members of the group give to these questions?
2. Encourage members of the group to share examples of being loved by others with God's love.
3. Imagine what living in a community founded on such love would be like. What hinders this coming in to being?
4. What does it mean to 'make a priority of love'?
5. What difference to our lives would making a daily choice to love others make to us?
6. How can we be Jesus to all around us, all the time?
7. How can we plant communities of love into our culture and what difference would they make?
8. Use prayer time for individuals to receive God's love afresh and to hear from God how they might practise more love in their lives. Expect to live differently!