

4. Read 1 John 3:16-18
 - a. Why is the cross not simply an example of someone receiving terrible abuse?
 - b. What good did Jesus's death on the cross achieve for us? (cf. 1 John 1:7; 2:2)
 - c. Why should we 'lay down our life for others'?
 - d. What example of sacrifice does John give as a practical outworking of this?
 - e. What part does an emotional response to need play in Christian love?

5. Read 1 John 3:19-24
 - a. What positive effect does loving others bring us as Christians, according to verses 19 and 22?
 - b. What helps us when we feel that we have failed to love? (3:23; cf. 1 John 1:8-2:2)
 - c. What truth does the Spirit help us to acknowledge? (cf. 3:24; 4:1-3)

Applying it to our frontlines and church life

6. What might 'loving with action and truth' look like:
 - a. On our frontlines?
 - b. In church life as we return from lockdown?

7. When is being 'nice' not the same as Christian love?

8. Why do we find it difficult to speak 'the truth in love'? How can we learn to do so more effectively?

GROWTH TEAMS



PRAYER



CARE



SHARE

**Week Beginning
Sunday 25th April 2021**

Growth Team News

Growth Teams are a great place to meet with others, build relationships of care, pray for one another and share our understanding of God's word with each other.

This week we start a new series on the second half of 1 John. You may find it helpful to read through the whole of 1 John before coming to the Growth Team meeting.

With lockdown we have two Growth Teams running on Zoom:

Mon. 8:00pm *on Zoom*
Thu. 8.00pm *on Zoom*

Anyone is welcome to join us. Please contact Paul (01843 592562) for more information or to join a team.

Love is... laying down one's life

John 3:16-24 (page 1225 in the church Bibles)

Space to take notes on the talk

1. C _____ to _____

2. a C _____ to _____

3. C _____ not _____

4. C _____ for _____

5. C _____

6. C _____

7. C _____

8. C _____ with _____

9. C _____ in _____

10. a C _____ of _____

Getting to know each other

- ❖ What is the best thing to have happened to you since we last met?

Praise: Read Psalm 410

- Take it in turns to choose a verse and use it as the start of a short prayer of praise to God.

Thinking through the issues:

- How do you think the 'person in the street' would answer the question: "What is love?"

Responding to the talk

1. For those who heard the talk, what was the 'C' that most spoke to you?
2. Going Deeper: Introducing 1 John – Read 1 John 1:1-4
 - a. What is the claim of the author in verses 1-2?
 - b. Why do you think he might need to make this claim?
 - c. What is the aim of the author in verses 3-4?
 - d. How does this fit with his stated aim in 5:17?
 - e. What do we learn about the 'antichrists' in 2:18-19, 22, 26?
 - f. Compare 1:5 and 3:11. What might this say about the structure of the book?
3. Read 1 John 3:11-15
 - a. How does Cain act as a good example of someone failing to love their brother? (cf. 3:10. The story of Cain and Abel is found in Genesis 4:1-16)
 - b. In what way was Jesus like Abel?
 - c. Why shouldn't we be surprised if the world hates us?
 - d. Why does John say hating bad for you?