

TITLE AND NUMBER: 80. Love one another

REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): John 13: 33-35

[Jesus said] "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."



LOOKING FURTHER: Matthew 25:34-40, 1 Corinthians 13 1-13

What does this Bible passage tell us?

Jesus gave His disciples a new commandment: that as He had loved them, so they should love one another. The love and fellowship shown in the early church enabled the growth of Christian communities across the world.

Jesus' love for those who were His friends was realistic and down to earth. He knew them all and understood their strengths and weaknesses. In the same way, God loves each one of us. As we become aware of how deeply we are loved by God, we are able to show this love and concern for others.

For years, volunteers from Prison Fellowship and from many other organisations have run chapel groups as part of supporting chaplaincy within prison. The chapel groups are fun, with lots of good humour and mutual support. They are also providing a space where people can explore and deepen their faith and where volunteers can learn from those who are in prison. These groups can be an opportunity to express God's love for one another as we pray for each other.

Your chaplaincy team may be able to help you find a church or an organisation which will welcome you into their fellowship and support you as you leave prison. This is the love that Jesus spoke about in action.

**AS I HAVE LOVED
YOU, SO YOU MUST
LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

Reflections:

- How have mutual support and good humour helped you? On the back of this sheet, write about some good times and give thanks to God.
- God's love for us is beyond understanding. Write down the times you have been aware of God's love for you.
- If you would like to attend Chaplaincy groups or want to find out more about finding a church or organisation on release, please talk to the Chaplains.
- Please pray that Chapel services will begin again in all prisons soon.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

