

God commands us to love each other and by each other He means everyone. God commands us to love exactly like He loves. It's pretty tough to love everyone exactly like Jesus loves us, we make mistakes but it shouldn't stop us from trying. What did Jesus do to show love to others?

## WORD OF THE WEEK

My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you. The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them. And you are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because servants do not know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father. You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name. This, then, is what I command you: love one another.

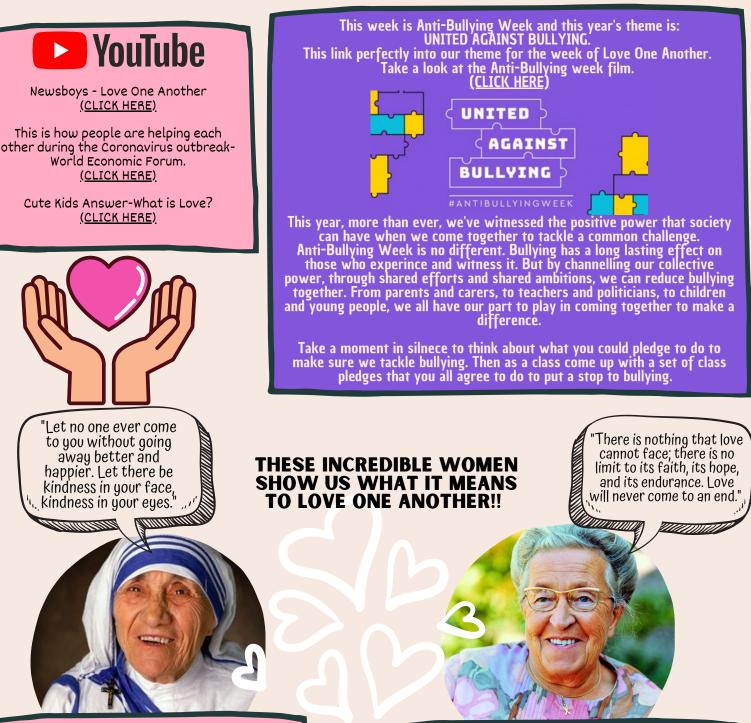
JOHN 15: 12-18



## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

ONE ANOTHER~

Father of compassion and God of love. I thank you for teaching me to love through the example of Jesus. May my words and actions reflect His love towards your people today, tomorrow, and until you bring us all home to you. In the name of Jesus, our great example, we pray. Amen. Friends are really important...we help each other whenever we can, so its a two-way street and supporting them uplifts us. Can you think of a time when you helped someone and it also made you feel good too? What does it feel like when you are getting on well with your friends and you are all kind and loving towards each other? What does it feel like when you fall out or don't help each other or look out for each other? Which one feels better?



## MOTHER TERESA (ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA)

The patience, kindness and humble spirit that we associate with being truly loving could be seen in Mother Teresa of Calcutta. She was a nun who went to India to teach Geography. When she saw the poor and sick on the streets of Calcutta she decided to leave the security of the convent and to retrain as a nurse, to work amongst the sick and the dying. She had to beg for medicine and for a room to treat patients. She took in the dying, the lepers and the unwanted children.

Mother Teresa could have been the president of her charity, sitting in a fine office away from the poor and dying. She could have lived in the finest house and worn the finest clothes. But instead She spent over fifty years helping the poor, the sick, and the dying, telling them by her life, and by her words, that they are loved.

## **CORRIE TEN BLOOM**

As you can imagine, after the war there was a lot of hatred between people and between the nations. There was a lot hurt and a lot of forgiveness was needed. Corrie Ten Bloom was a Dutch women who had suffered in Ravensbruck Concentration Camp because she and her family had hidden Jews from the Nazis. Her father died in prison and her sister in the camp. Yet after the war Corrie travelled to Germany to speak about God's forgiveness. At a church in Munich she recognised a former prison camp guard. She vividly remembered all the horror, anguish and humiliation she suffered the last time she saw him. He did not recognise her, but conscious of the part he played in the war he approached her and asked her forgiveness. She did not want to shake his hand; she just felt the coldness as she stood there. Eventually, she mechanically put out her hand and they shook hands. Only then did she feel the love of God flow through her to him.