

Love One Another

Word of the Week: John 13: 31-35

When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once."

My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, but 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 everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Reflection

In this week's Word of the Week Jesus is speaking to His disciples during the last supper. He knows that His time with them is short and he wants to leave them with an important message. A message of love for others.

Jesus teaches us that love is the way others will recognise us as His followers. When we love each other, we reflect His love and show the world what it means to follow Him. Our love can be shown through our actions and our words, through the deeds that we do for others without expecting a reward. That is the real love that Jesus is talking about.

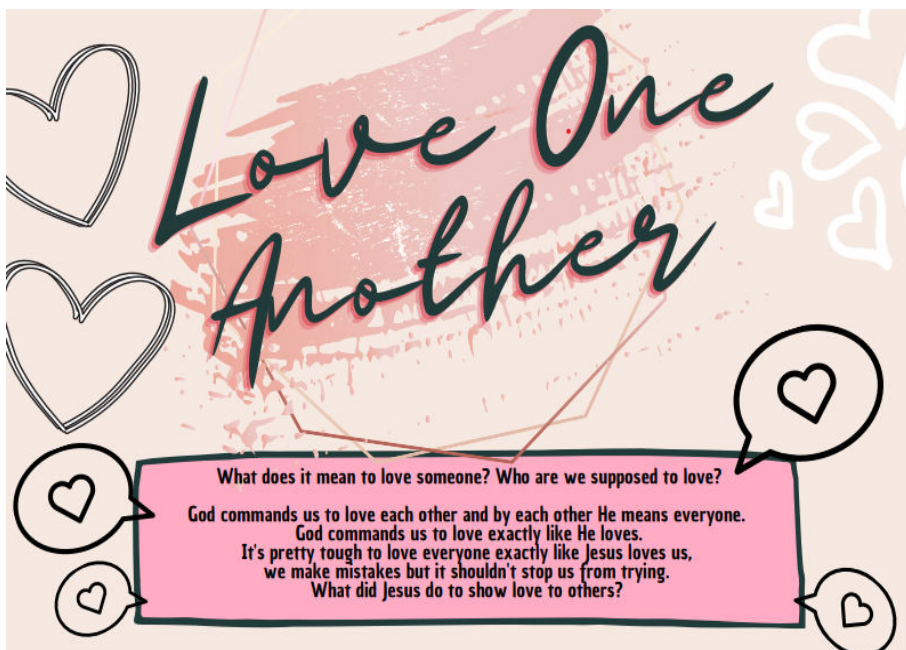
Love is not just a feeling - it is something else, something more than that. It means helping others, being kind, and supporting one another. This can be hard to do in our busy lives and sometimes we really must work hard at it. But it is also love for everyone – those who we do not know, those far away who need our prayers and charity. This week we pray that we can love one another just as God loves us with an unconditional love, a love that is true.



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8ypf0wR6A0>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VAFMGRMhFsM&list=RDVAFMGRMhFsM&start_radio=1



Prayers for the Week

Dear Jesus,

You taught us to love one another as you love us. Help us to be kind in our words, gentle in our actions, and generous in our hearts. May our school be a place of welcome and peace, where everyone feels valued and loved.

Amen

Dear Lord,

Help us to notice when others need help. Give us the courage to be kind, even when it is difficult. May our smiles, our words, and our actions show your love each day.

Amen

Dear Jesus,

Guide us to follow your example. May we help those in need, welcome those who feel left out, and stand up for what is right. Teach us to love others every day, just as you love us.

Amen

Loving Father,

You ask us to love one another just as Jesus has loved us. Help us to show that love in what we do – by helping without being asked, by speaking kindly, and by including those who feel alone. Fill our hearts with your compassion so that we may see others as you see them. May our actions each day be a sign of your love in the world.

Amen

"Let no one ever come to you without going away better and happier. Let there be kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes."

THESE INCREDIBLE WOMEN SHOW US WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER!!

"There is nothing that love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, its hope, and its endurance. Love will never come to an end."

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 of hurt and a lot of forgiveness was needed. Corrie Ten Bloom was a Dutch woman who had suffered in Ravensbrück 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.

What can you do this week?

- Give genuine compliments to at least three people each day
- Hold the door open or help someone carry something
- Include someone new in your friendship group or conversations
- Say thank you to a member of staff
- Resolve disagreements kindly rather than arguing or gossiping
- Volunteer to help tidy the classroom
- Speak kindly, especially when it is difficult
- Encourage others especially when they feel unsure or lack confidence
- Think 'What would Jesus do?' before speaking or acting.

