













Small Group/ Reflection Notes

19-09-21		Love	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Which TV series are you most enjoying or looking forward to?		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we show people coming into our church what we mean by God is Love when their points of reference are TV programmes such as <i>Love Island</i> ?		
 Read	1 Corinthians 13:1-12	 Listen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> vs. 1-3: How can we be sure that the motivation for our ministries, outreaches and interactions as a church community is LOVE? Do you think there are times when this is not the case? <input type="checkbox"/> vs. 4-7: Paul's definition of what love is and is not. Which do you find particularly challenging? Do you think he's missed out any traits? <input type="checkbox"/> This is a very familiar passage, used frequently at weddings. How can we avoid missing the radical teaching here in the midst of romanticism and sentimentality? <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus showed his love in the fullest sense through his willingness to die for us, in order to invite us in. How does this match up with the love Paul writes about in 1 Corinthians 13? How do you respond to this kind of love? <input type="checkbox"/> Look up [some of] the following verses which all use the Greek word <i>agape</i> for love. What do you understand <i>agape</i> to mean from these contexts? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● John 3:16 ● John 15:13 ● Romans 5:5-8 ● Galatians 5:22 ● Ephesians 5:25 ● Colossians 3:14 ● 1 John 3:16 ● Jude 1:12 <input type="checkbox"/> Paul's descriptions of love are of something profound, life-changing and empowering. When have you known this kind love in your life, either from God or from others?		
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> Read 1 John 4: 7-21 - anyone who loves knows something of the divine because God himself is love. What do you think this means for us as Christians? How does/should our love for each other set us apart from other communities?		

 Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> What is God putting on <i>your</i> heart?
 Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Read through verses 4-7 again, exchanging the word <i>LOVE</i> for GOD. Use this as a basis for prayer, meditation and worship. <input type="checkbox"/> Challenge: read through verses 4-7 again, exchanging the word LOVE for your own name; does it ring true? Pray over any elements which are difficult.
 Pray	<p><i>Lord God, You are love. Thank you for showing me that love by _____. I feel _____ when I consider it. Thank you. I pray that you would envelop me in that love. Help me to show your love to _____ through _____. Amen.</i></p>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
 Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk