

# LOVING EACH OTHER

**WEEK 5 | FAMILY**

## CHAT:

**Here is an activity to get some conversation going with your family:**

Gather the family somewhere you can all chat easily.

You'll need: A Bible or access to an audio Bible, bags of sweets (alternatively another sort after small sized snack like grapes or mini bread sticks), an empty jar/bowl per person.

Each person needs their pile of sweets/snacks and a jar/bowl in front of them.

Find 1 John 4:7-21 and either nominate someone to read it or use an audio recording (the person reading wouldn't be able to join in the activity). If this length of reading is too much, choose a shorter chunk within it.

As the verses are read, every time the word 'love' is used drop a sweet/snack into the jar/bowl in front of you.

When the passage has finished take a look at the jars and count how many sweets/snacks there are in it. Is anyone surprised at how many times the word love is used?

Carry on chatting with these following questions and add your own. For each time someone shares something in the discussion they get to take a sweet/snack out of their jar/bowl to eat. If someone comes up with their own question maybe they could have 3 sweets!

Ask these questions: What is love? How does God love us? How do we love each other? When we show love to others what happens? How can we share more love in our household?

# PRAY:

## **Here is a prayer activity to do with your family:**

Gather the family in a room with some space to move around.

You'll need: pegs (wooden ones would work best) or alternatively use sticky labels, colouring pens, a piece of paper.

This activity involves loving each other by praying words over and for each other using pegs.

Together come up a colour coded list of prayer words. Use as many colours and as many words as you like. For example: blue=be brave, red=Gods love, pink = protection, Green=God's grace, Yellow = joy, purple = peace.

Make a chart of these words and colours so it is visible for everyone.

Each grab some pegs. Using coloured pens and the chart, make a prayer peg for someone else in your family. Write a word from the chart, or a prayer based on that word, in a corresponding colour pen. For those that are not able to or don't want to write words, just colour in the peg with the colour of the word.

Now peg it to the person you have prayed for.

Repeat this for everyone in your household. You could do more than one peg for each person.

Take a look at the prayers prayed for you. Do you have lots of the same colour or are they all different?

When you have finished this prayer activity, peg your own prayer pegs somewhere to keep and see.

You could keep the colour coded prayer list somewhere like a pin board and use it again or to remind you to keep praying for each other.

# DO:

## **Here is an activity to do together with your family:**

Gather the family together.

You'll need: pen and paper (and then possibly lots of other stuff!)

This activity encourages us to think of ways to love people outside of our own households.

Using the pen and paper, come up with as many suggestions as possible of how your family could show love to others.

Write these suggestions into a list and maybe add a tick box next to each one. Stick the list somewhere visible for the next week.

Choose something on the list and do it together as a family. Tick this off the list and then have a go at doing a few of the things during the week.

Here are some examples:

- make biscuits and drop on someone's doorstep
- draw a chalk drawing on your street for your neighbours
- write a letter
- buy extra bits on your shopping list. Make up a box/hamper and deliver to someone you know needs a bit extra
- ask people what you could pray for them and pray
- phone someone

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