

- 13. Who is it that you find the most difficult to love?
- 14. How has this study helped you to see things differently? (5 minutes)
- ★ What in the life of our Church shows this Mark matters to us?
(2 minutes)
- ★ How is this Mark reflected in our worship? (2 minutes)
- ★ What more could we do as a Church to live this Mark? (10 minutes)
- ★ Who else in our community does this? How can we help them?
(3 minutes)

In I Corinthians 13 Paul writes that without love we are nothing. In James 2:14 it says 'faith by itself, without works, is dead'. Spend some time in silence, reflecting and praying on the reality of your love. Pray for opportunity to share Christ's love this week. (5 minutes)

(In preparation for next week's meeting, be gently reminded to reflect on the following passages: Isaiah 58:1-10; Amos 2:6-8; Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 5:38-42; Matthew 23:23-36; Mark 10:13-27 and Luke 19:1-10.)

A Lent course for the Anglican Church of Bermuda, 2014

Written by the Bishop of Bermuda with help from the Diocesan Evangelism and Education Committee based on the Five Marks of Mission

The time allocations are suggested to facilitate completion of your group session in one hour

Getting to know you (5 minutes)

1. Introduce yourself to the group.

A baby doesn't understand the words 'I love you' but knows that s/he is loved by the things that happen.

2. What things make you appreciate that you are loved?

Mark 3 – To respond to human need through loving service

The theologian, Rev. John Stott, is quoted as saying: 'Whist we undertake the Great Commission, we must never neglect the Greatest Commandment'. The third mark picks up on the nature and character of God and on the fundamental command of Jesus to 'love AS I have loved you'.

3. What different kinds of 'need' are there in your family, church and community? (5 minutes)

Review the following passages of scripture and ask these two questions:

4. Who are we called to love?

5. What does love look like in the hard places of life?
(2 Kings 5:1-14, Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 10:25-37)
(10 minutes)

Sometimes we don't know what to do when we are faced with the overwhelming needs around us.

6. How does the example of Job's friends in Job 2:11-13 help us?
(2 minutes)

Read John 13:3-15

7. Why do you think Peter was reluctant to have his feet washed?
(1 minute)

8. Why do you think we sometimes struggle with being helped?
(2 minutes)

Read Mark 10:46-52

9. What do you think Bartimaeus' greatest need was? (2 minutes)

10. Why did Jesus ask him the question? (2 minutes)

11. What effect did this question have on Bartimaeus? (2 minutes)

12. What does this story teach us about responding to the needs of others? (2 minutes)