

Christian Truths: Love

Ice breaker: Teams have 5 minutes to come up with as many song titles with the word 'love' in them as possible.

Pray: Jesus I pray that this week, together, we learn a little more about how much you love us.

Make the introduction and development sections extremely interactive and discussion focussed, try and avoid them being 'from the front' sessions because the conclusion will be more of a Gospel presentation.

Introduction: John 3:16. What do we learn about God from this verse?

1. Why did God send Jesus?
2. Who did he send Jesus to? Is anybody excluded? What about bad people, what about gays, what about Hitler? What about Osama Bin Laden.... (to make the point more forcefully, replace the words 'loves the world' with 'loves Osama Bin Laden...')
3. What did God send Jesus to do?

Development

1. Research: What is Love (in general, what does the internet have to say on the matter)? What does the Bible say about Love? Brainstorm: What is love.

2. Read: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient, love is kind....

3a. Re-write those words... in your groups come up with 5 "Love is..."

3b: Read 1 John 4:8 'God is love'

3c. Use the sentences the kids came up with and replace the word love with God and see what happens :-)
God is love = God is patient, God is kind.....

Conclusion

Last week we talked about judgement. When we think about how much God loves us its easy to start judging yourself

"I'm too rubbish/fat/ugly/stupid/lazy for God to love me"

For me, I need to constantly confront myself with the fact that God loves me.

I need to constantly confront myself with the fact that God may have planned for me to be exactly like I am right now, mistakes and everything. I need to confront myself with the fact that is God is love, then God is merciful and kind - so if I died right now - there would be a chance that God would tell me that:

He was sorry that I had to survive in the fallen world for so long - and that he was glad I made it home (to heaven) and cheer me on for surviving for so long.

Because that's what I loving God would say.

Pray - give them a chance to know the Lord, give God a moment to speak to them about how he feels about 'their progress' or 'how they are doing'.