# Sunday 21st January – Connect Group Notes

## Love in Action?

Romans 12: 9-21

Read Romans 12v 1,2

What do you understand by Paul’s instruction to be “living sacrifices”? Why does he give this instruction,

What do you understand by “worship”? How does the last phrase of v1 modify your thinking?

In what ways is an encounter with Jesus transformational?

Compare v9-21 with 1 Corinthians 13. Is Paul defining love in the same way in both passages? Can you spot any differences other than style of writing?

Four Greek word for “love” were given:

Eros – physical love

Storge – family love

Philia – love of friends

Agape – God’s love, and love within the Christian community

How successful has the church been throughout history in demonstrating “agape” love?

Where can it do better?

How far do you accept Geoff’s paraphrase of v9 regarding love in the Christian community? (“The love you show to each other must be like the love God shows to you – and nothing less”)

Consider the 13 qualities Paul lists in v9-16; are there any of these where you (or the church) are failing. How can you (or the church) live these qualities more fully.

V9 is interpreted in different ways in different translations:

Love must be sincere (NIV)

Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them (NLT)

Love must bewithout hypocrisy (NEB)

Are these translations all saying the same or are there subtle differences?

Are there ways in which our love for each other could be regarded as insincere or hypocritical?

In what ways are you grateful for love in the fellowship?