



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

10 MARCH

DREAM TEAM: THERE IS MORE

This study guide should be used the week following the sermon it supplements.

MAIN TEXT: 1 Corinthians 12:31-14:1

31 Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. 12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

14 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.

COMING UP

4, 11, Mar – CAP Money
20 Mar – Whole Church Prayer Meeting
22 Mar – 'Unforgivable' Film Premiere
22-26 Aug – Westpoint

***B.L.E.S.S. means:** Begin with Prayer, Listen with care Eat together, Serve with love, Share Jesus Stories. For more info see westminsterchapel.org.uk/bless.

GETTING STARTED

We want to develop and strengthen a healthy culture of encouragement at Chapel, so each week we'll start our LG's by sharing something we want to thank God for: an encouraging thing He's doing in our lives, or in the lives of others. What ways have you been able to B.L.E.S.S.* those around you in recent weeks?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Is it right to ask God for more?
2. How can we be prone to disbelieve or downplay the operation of spiritual gifts today?
3. Historically and Biblically, using this passage, whilst looking at (asking different people in the group to read) 1 Corinthians 1:7; 14:1, 39, 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21, why should we be confident that the spiritual gifts still operate today?
4. How can we end up, like the Corinthians, making too much of the gifts? Why is this dangerous? Hint: we don't follow the signs to where they're pointing.
5. How are spiritual gifts signposts of hope, written with love, to awaken faith? Why do we still need them in our world? How can they bring hope backed with love to people in need? What do they reveal about the kingdom of heaven/future?
6. In 14:1, Paul urges us to run after love. How do we do this? Hint: in response to God's love, by being all in at church, loving not dissing Jesus' bride.
7. Share a time when you have deeply experienced God's love.
8. What more could you do to pursue love at Westminster Chapel?

NEXT STEPS AND PRAYER

What do you need to repent of? Unbelief? Theological doubt? Making it more about the sign than the sign-giver? Failing in love? Being luke-warm in attendance/engagement at church? Have a time of confession and repentance, inviting God to minister his presence in power, and pour love into people's hearts. Ask God to baptise people with His love, that they might minister His love more effectively with their spiritual gifts. Pray for this love to drive out fear.