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## Pastor's - Points to Ponder

Just two weeks ago Pastor Tim began a new short series of sermons under the banner heading "Praying for our church." to highlight how we can pray for our church to love and serve one another. Part one (am on 3<sup>rd</sup> March) was entitled "Giving thanks to God for my church" drawn from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10. Part two (am on 10<sup>th</sup> March) was entitled "Praying to be a loving community." drawn from I Corinthians 3:1-13



Hopefully by the time you read this you will have heard both sermons either live at the church, on the You Tube channel or listed to the audio file on the website.

Before we hear Part Three in the series its time for a recap and to help us Pastor Tim has given us eight questions that are based on the teaching from both gospel chapters.

- 1. In what ways have the last two sermons helped you in praying for our church?
- 2. What specific things can you give thanks to God for when you pray for our church?
- 3. How do you understand the terms gospel, and gospel culture?
- 4. What does 1 Thessalonians 3:12 (Philippians 1:9) teach us about a church with a culture of love?
- 5. In what ways do we see Christ revealing the nature of true love as Paul describes it in 1 Corinthians 13v3-8?
- 6. Thinking about your own response to relationship challenges, which aspect of love (1 Corinthians 13v3-7) do you find most difficult?

7. What might be going on in your heart that is causing you to respond like that? (This is obviously very personal, but you may feel happy to share some things with others and begin to develop a culture of openness!!)

8. Take time to bring to the Lord those heart issues and ask him to reveal how Christ meets you at that point. What gospel truths do you need to believe to experience this deeper change?

Take time to pray that...

the Lord will help us to love one another in a way that... is patient and kind isn't proud or self-seeking, keeps no record of wrongs, rejoices with the truth, trusts, hopes and preserves.

**Blessings** 

Tim