

## CHRISTMAS FOOD COLLECTION

### Malling Food Bank Christmas Food Collection Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December

If you'd like to donate some Christmas treats (e.g. Kids' Items, Mince Pies, Puddings, Biscuits, Snacks) please put them in the basket on Sun 20<sup>th</sup> or in the few days before.



### Family Craft & Carols 4pm Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Kids' Christmas-themed Arts & Crafts plus Carols, all-age Talk, chocolate give aways & children's tea.

*Perfect for families with under 11s.  
Please come and enjoy.  
Please invite others to come with you.*

### Diary Dates

Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7.30pm <b>Monthly Prayer Evening</b> (drinks from 7.15pm) with focus on Christmas and Lesotho
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10am <b>Normal Sunday Worship</b> 4pm <b>Family Craft and Carols</b> Kids' Arts & Craft with Food & Fun (esp for under 11s)
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10am <b>Nativity Service (1 hour)</b> Guest service inc. Carols, Performance & short talk 7.30pm <b>Traditional Carol Service with Choir</b> plus Christmas Message, Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10am <b>Christmas Day Service (1 hour)</b>

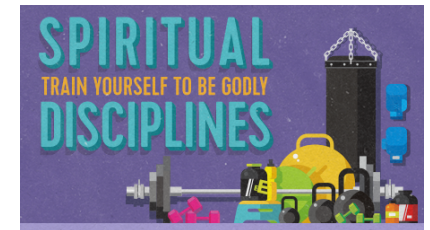
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December

## CONNECT WITH THE MESSAGE

### Love One Another

1 John 4:7-11

1) How do you most like close friends and family to express love to you?



Read 1 John 4:7-11

2) In what ways do you find it hard to love other believers?

3) What did you find helpful from Rich's message?

4) How helpful do you find it to be 'commanded to love' other believers? Why?

5) What would be an appropriate response to this?

**Read Romans 5:8**

6) How does Jesus's death show us God's love for us?

**Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

7) By looking at the previous verses write down who you think the love described here is between. Paul lists at least 15 different characteristics of love in these verses.

8) Which ones do you think describe well how you are with other believers?

9) Which ones do you find harder to be like?

10) What are some ways in which you could express love like this in the coming week? How could you go 'above & beyond' to express love to someone?

## DIGGING DEEPER

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**Read 1 John 4:7-11**

- 1) What does John mean that we have heard the command to love one another "from the beginning"?
- 2) Why does John add "one another" to the command to love?
- 3) Why is Cain and Abel a particularly good example for John to use here?
- 4) What does he mean by "the world" hating believers?
- 5) For which reasons should we not be surprised by the world hating us?
- 6) What problems does verse 15 raise for you?
- 7) How does John describe genuine love in this passage?
- 8) What implications does he draw from it?
- 9) What conclusions should we draw about believers who do not seem to care about others?
- 10) What personal challenges does this passage raise for you?

## CONNECT IN PRAYER

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**Family Craft & Carols**

- Thank God for a good response to invitations so far and the families already planning to come from the local community.
- Pray for everyone preparing for this event and leading/helping with the different aspects including: craft, food, carols, talk, setup and welcoming.
- Pray for a fantastic atmosphere, loads of fun and for people of all ages to be encouraged to think a bit more about Jesus as the best present ever.

**People in Need at Christmas Time**

- Pray for the three Food Banks in Lewes and those who are helped by them: Malling (hosted at King's), Landport, De Montfort.
- Pray for everyone preparing for the Christmas Day lunch and party for Senior Citizens, organized by Churches Together at the House of Friendship.
- Pray for people who will be alone this Christmas, as well as those who find family relationships particularly difficult at this time.