

## Study notes based on John 15:1-17 and Psalm 1 John Farren

1. Reflect on the relationship between doing and feeling, when we talk about love. 'Love is a doing word'.
2. How do you feel about being commanded to love? See Matthew 22:36-40.
3. We are commanded to love God, our neighbour and ourself? Which do you find easiest? Which is hardest? Why?
4. How do ensure that loving yourself does not stray into selfishness?
5. The parable of the Good Samaritan widens the scope of those we are to love to include our enemies. How do we respond to this? E.g. 'Muslims are your enemies to be loved.'
6. See Ephesians 3:14-19. Note the expression 'rooted and grounded in love'. Cf Galatians 5:22-23. What did Jesus say about the connection between roots and fruit?
7. How do we become rooted in love?
8. Comment on the expression 'the closer you get to God, the more aware you become of your sinfulness.'
9. Recall Jesus interview with Peter on the beach in John 21: 15-17. Why do think Peter struggled to tell Jesus that He loved Him unconditionally? Why do you think Peter got upset with this questioning?
10. See John 15:12-14 what is the evidence of our love for Jesus?

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