



# Assembly 2025-2026: Healthy Relationships: Sacrificial Love.

RE Syllabus/Collective Worship Dispositions: *Caring for Others; Being Merciful & Forgiving; Creating Unity & Harmony; Being Loyal & Steadfast; Being Open, honest & truthful.*

## Three layers covered:

- (U) We all should live lives of care, respect, generosity and sacrificial service and love to other humans. This is the foundation of all healthy, loving relationships.
- (T) God the Creator loves His creatures and wants people to love one another.
- (FS) Christians believe that God made us for connection with himself and with others. They believe that God came from heaven to earth in Jesus to show his love by laying down his life to save people from their sins - the ultimate and most self-sacrificial act of love imaginable. Jesus calls his followers to show similarly sacrificial love toward other human beings.

British Values:- Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

**Script for the accompanying Powerpoint:**

(Suggested divisions: P1 = Person 1 (BCM). P2 = Person 2 (Church Partner)).  
(When students are entering the hall Display (title) **Slide** of some quotes.

**SECTION A – [3.45 mins in total]**

(When teacher handing over to you display Title **Slide**).

**P1:** (NAME) Good morning/afternoon, I'm (NAME) (**Click - BCM logo**) from Birmingham City Mission, a local Christian charity that serves people in need. And we do this alongside (**Slide - churches logos**) many local church partners across Birmingham and beyond.

[NB. If Local Church partner is co-delivering say:  
'including (NAME THE CHURCH PARTNER PRESENT) from (NAME OF

CHURCH)] who is joining me today.

[NB. If church is delivering solo they briefly mention BCM, mention the many local church partners, before mentioning their church in particular]

**P2:** Today's assembly (**Title slide**) is about something that we *all* instinctively desire: to belong, to be in close community, to connect with others - that's what a relationship is. Whether it be with friends, family, classmates, colleagues - we all long to form good, genuine friendships with others. Many people of faith believe that humans were designed to be in relationship with God and with each other. And people of no-faith similarly see the importance of loving community for the benefit of all.

**P1: (Slide)** The Bible, which Christians know to be God's words to them, teaches that in the beginning God made the first human being called Adam. God saw that it was not good for Adam to be alone and so He created a lady called Eve to be his companion - she became his wife, helper, friend and

equal. They were made to love and serve each other in a harmonious and selfless way. Later on we'll learn how they didn't live up to that ideal.

In the video we're about to watch we'll learn of someone else who wasn't always loving and selfless in their actions. ([Click and click to play](#))

### **VIDEO 1: Summary of 'A Christmas Carol.' TIME LENGTH??)**

**P1: (Slide)** Whilst Scrooge was initially solitary and self-absorbed, he goes on to find joy in opening up his heart to others, and in loving them by serving their needs.

### **SECTION B – both in-person and video [7 mins in total??]**

**P2:** And that is at the centre of any healthy relationship: love. A genuine care and affection for others. Love is arguably the most important thing in our lives. ([Slide](#)) How do we know that love is important...?

Well, for starters, everybody is talking about it...

(**Click**) From Bob Marley, who asked whether he had found love or not...

(**Click**) To Adele, who sings about the pain of losing it...

(**Click**) ...to Ed Sheeran, who in the song 'Perfect' sings about finding love...

The world around us, from the songs we listen to, to the movies we watch, to the stories that capture our hearts are often, and, sometimes exclusively, about one thing: love.

**P1: (Slide)** Chat GPT isn't always reliable but it gives a good definition of love: "Love is a deep, complex emotion and state of being that encompasses care, connection, and commitment toward someone or something. At its core, love is the desire for the well-being of another, often putting their needs alongside or above your own, without expecting something in return."

**(Slide)** In Greek thinking there are four types of love:-

Eros: a Romantic love which involves intimacy and attraction.

Phileo: a strong affection between friends or siblings.

Storge: the natural love that family members have for one another.

Agape - a sacrificial love that serves and gives to people unconditionally.

In addition, the Bible defines love this way: ([Slide & click](#) [AUDIO file: 1 Cor 13](#)):

**P2:** In this next video, we'll look at a story of someone who had this sacrificial love for his friend... ([Click and click to play](#))

**VIDEO 2: The Sacrificial love of a Solider for his friend. 2 min 20)**

**P2: (Slide)** Wow, what a moving story! I wonder where this kind of incredible sacrificial love comes from?....

**(Slide)** The Bible teaches that ultimately it comes from God because He is love itself. It says that 'God is love.' The Bible also teaches that we are created in the image and likeness of God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit - this One God who has always existed as a loving

community of persons. So, Christians believe that is why we as humans crave love and connection because, ultimately, we were designed to join this loving relationship with God: this community of love, as well as with others too.

Let's see more in this next video: (**Click and click to play**)

### **VIDEO 3 - Gospel presentation – 2 min 40**

**P1:** Jesus said in John 15 verse 13: (**Slide**): 'There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends'. So, just like the soldier in the earlier video, Jesus did the same thing for people! He paid the ultimate price for them, showing (**click**) sacrificial love. This is why the symbol of the cross is so often used as a picture of loving sacrifice.

### **SECTION C – Delivered in-person [3:00 mins in total]**

**P2:** This extraordinary example of love inspires Christians to love Jesus and

love others in a selfless way. And that's why we at (Slide) Birmingham City Mission and our partner churches seek to demonstrate that love to our neighbour. We do this through serving...

- (Slide) The homeless through our Care Centre,
- (Slide) Older people through visiting them in their homes & care homes;
- (Slide) Those struggling to make ends meet through our resource centre, food bank and charity shop
- (Slide) And children through our Christmas present project, Toylink.

**P1:** (Slide) Today we've heard about how we are relational beings designed to love and be loved. Let's now think about how we can apply this to our own relationships . Here are five points to reflect on:

**P2:**

(Slide) Firstly, Communication is Key - speaking and listening.

Truly listen to someone. Put your phone down. Pay full attention when they speak, and wait for them to finish before you start speaking.

Be honest and open with other people who you can trust: Express your thoughts clearly and respectfully.

**(Slide)** Second, spend meaningful time with friends and family, doing fun things you all enjoy.

**(Slide)** Third, small Acts of Kindness. That greeting, that smile, leaving a note, sending a card, giving a gift. Sacrificial love is all about putting others' needs before one's own.

**P1:**

**(Slide)** Fourth, establish boundaries. Be clear with people who might make you feel uncomfortable with their demands. For instance, a friend may expect you to always be available online and then fall out with you if you're not. Learn how to say 'no' in these situations and stick with it.

**(Slide)** Finally, practice being a Peacemaker. If you've fallen out with someone, let them know how their actions may have made you feel, or be ready to apologise if you may have been in the wrong. This may help repair things. Now, forgiveness doesn't necessarily mean that we should trust someone as much after we've been wronged, but we can let go and move on.

**P2:**

**(Slide)** So, you've heard some different takes on relationships today, including from a Christian perspective. But whether you share my faith or not, we hope that you've enjoyed listening to this and found it helpful in building and maintaining healthy relationships with others.

[NB. Reflection - either a short or longer reflection, or a prayerful one]:

Short reflection: 'I will leave these five points up (**Slide**) for you to **reflect on** (think of one thing you can put into practice) as I hand back over to your

teacher now. Thank you.'

Slightly longer reflection (for where there's time) - **hold a moment (10-15 sec) of silence for quiet reflection**, thus: 'We're now going to have a few moments of quiet reflection. To consider these points again which are on the screen, and think of how we might put them into practice in our lives. Thank you.'

(Optional additional extra:- reflective prayer, where the school practices true 'Collective Worship' and **where you feel comfortable**): 'Those of you of faith *may* want to silently ask God to help you in doing these things. But others here may wish to reflect on what you've heard today.... Thank you.]