



Where is the Love?

April 29<sup>nd</sup> 2013

The Black-Eyed Peas have a song entitled, **Where is the Love?**

The song illustrates a violent world – a world of terrorism – **‘we still got terrorists here livin’.**

The song also depicts a prejudiced world, a racist world – **‘But if you only have love for your own race, then you only leave space to discriminate.’**

The song goes on to describe a world of wars – **‘Nations dropping bombs’.**

The song portrays a material world. A world where love for things is more than love for people – **‘most of us only care about money making’.**

The song illustrates a disrespectful world; a world which pays too much attention to the media – **‘wrong information always shown by the media, negative images is the main criteria / Infecting the young minds faster than bacteria’.**

The song describes a world without values – **‘whatever happened to the values of humanity’.**

As we look at our own communities, and as we look at the things happening in the world today – we can’t avoid the question **‘where is the love’?**

*Do you agree with each of the lines quoted from the song?*

*What can we do in our own communities to show that love exists – that there is love?*



It’s tempting to think that the world is so bad, that the negative images conveyed by the Black Eyed Peas represent the whole truth – that the situation is so bad that we can’t do anything about it.

Sometimes it’s so easy to think that we as individuals, as pupils, are so small, so weak, so insignificant, that we can’t do ANYTHING to change things in the world. This is SO wrong. With a little imagination and good will we can all act to make the world a better place – one day at a time. Each and every one of us has the power to give, the power to encourage others to give and to join in building a better world that works for the good of all. We all have the power to love – to show concern for others.

True love can change everything. When we think of love, perhaps we think of Valentine’s Day, we may think of romance, of chocolates and roses. But Christian love has very little to do with sentimentality. When Jesus Christ speaks of love he speaks of putting others first, of turning the other cheek, and eventually giving your own life for others as he did. This kind of love is not sentimental and tender but uncompromising and solid.

This famous part of Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians says that love is above anything else and surpasses everything.

**“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not selfish, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”**  
**1 Corinthians 13 v 48**

‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.’  
Matthew 22:36-40

The Bible tells us to love our neighbour, since Jesus first said it the question has been asked ‘Who is my neighbour?’ With the World Wide Web and all our other technology things are going global, and for the first time ever we are able to know what is going on around the world and help those in any country in the world.  
*Who do you think your neighbour is?*

The story of the Good Samaritan in the Bible suggests that anyone that we can help is our neighbour.  
*Who in your form has a friend in the furthest place from Carlisle?*

Consider all of the different groups of people who come into contact with in your life. This can include everyone from your actual next door neighbours to the people you see on the news.  
*How can you show love to each of these groups?*