

## VISION DISCUSSION GUIDE - LOVING FAMILY

On Vision Sunday we heard that there will be particular attitudes and behaviours that we will value at St Peter's (and probably already do!). These values capture the sort of community we believe god is calling us to be.

**LOVING FAMILY**  
**EXPECTANT PRAYER**  
**GENEROUS GIVING**  
**HUMBLE SERVICE**  
**COURAGEOUS MISSION**  
**DETERMINED DISCIPLESHIP**  
**PASSIONATE WORSHIP**

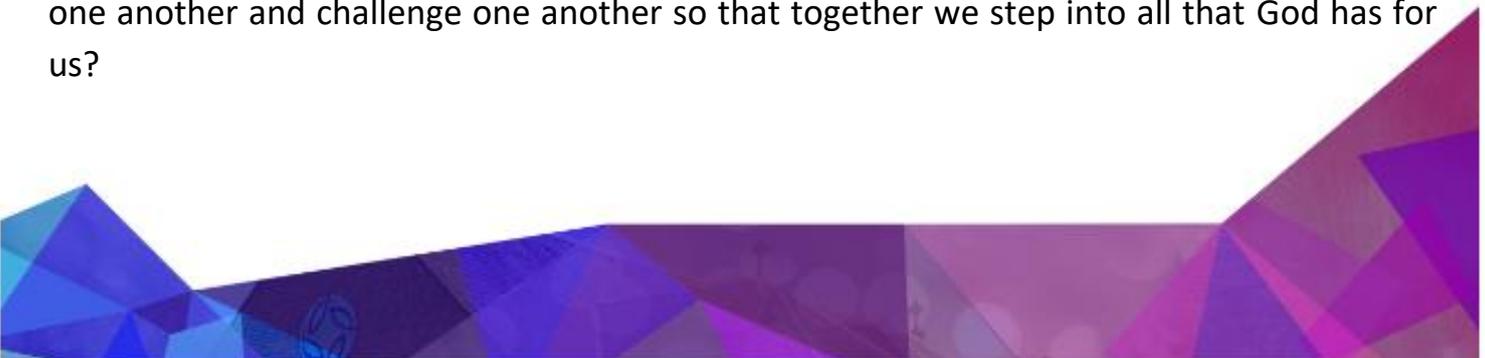
This is what was said in the short reflection on the values in the Vision Sunday service:

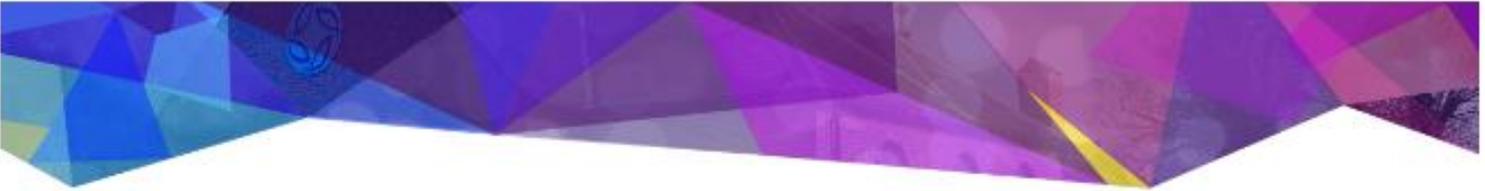
***WE WILL BE A CHURCH THAT VALUES LOVING FAMILY***

*Jesus said: "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."*

Human beings are relational creatures, made in the image of a relational God who is perfect community in himself. We crave connection, relationship, authentic community. The church is a family. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. God is our father and we are his children. Jesus describes those who love and submit to God as members of his family.

How can we grow as a LOVING FAMILY? How can we care for one another and encourage one another and challenge one another so that together we step into all that God has for us?





## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

When you think of the Church, what words, phrases and metaphors normally come to mind for you? Is 'family' one of them?

How well do you think St Peter's currently embodies the value of being 'LOVING FAMILY'?

How have you experienced St Peter's as a LOVING FAMILY before?

Good families care for each other. We know that pastoral care is crucial to the health of the church. How good are we at caring for each other at St Peter's? How can we, as individuals and the church, become better at caring for each other?

What could we do to grow as a LOVING FAMILY in the future?

What would be the qualities and characteristics of a church that is a LOVING FAMILY?

What would be the qualities and characteristics of people who were members of a church that is a LOVING FAMILY? What would the 'person spec' include?

How do you need the love, encouragement, care and support of your brothers and sisters in Christ today? What are your prayer requests?

