



Home Group Discussion Notes

‘Dear children let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and truth’. 1 John 3: 18
There have been almost 6000 HIV diagnoses in Scotland and 1500 known deaths. Treatments for people living with HIV in the developed world are good and universally available. The majority of people are now able to think about living with HIV rather than preparing to die from an HIV related illness.

The church has not always been good at recognising the needs of people living with HIV in our own communities. We find it easy to be compassionate and caring about people living in a different part of the world; we are much more challenged by the needs of people who are our immediate neighbours.

Some questions to consider:

Is your church ‘HIV competent’? i.e. are you well enough informed to ensure that you don’t inadvertently stigmatise or discriminate against someone who is living with HIV ?

How would you feel about taking wine from a chalice (shared cup) after someone who was living with HIV?

How would your Sunday school manage a child who was living with HIV? Would you need to take any special precautions? Who would need to know the child’s HIV status?

If you regularly donate to charity, do you include HIV charities in your giving? If not, why not? Do people who are living with HIV seem to be less deserving in some way?

How would Christ respond to people living with HIV? Perhaps you could reflect on the story of the haemorrhaging woman (Luke 8: 43-47)

Is there a response to HIV you could make that would reflect action and truth?