Sermon Summary

Understanding the Fathers Love (Father's Day)
(See the book 'Experiencing Father's Embrace' by Jack Frost)

'1. Reactive attachment disorder' occurs when unkind actions affect ones personality. Children can lose their ability to trust and find it difficult to give and receive love. Can you give an example of Children you have heard of who have been affected in this way?

2. *A nurturing mother is particularly important in the first 2 years of life. A loving protective father for years 3-5'* **Discuss**

3. Without nurturing love children are 4 to 7 times more likely to suffer from ill health. Caring words, friendship & affectionate touch, all have significant healing qualities. *Did you receive this sort of care and affection from your parents?*

4. *'The greatest thing any father can do for his children is to love their mother'* **Discuss**

5. Jack Frost's father had been in the armed forces and brought his family up with harsh rules. Jack received little love, encouragement or special times with his dad. Particularly hurtful was the time when Jack's father forcefully cut his hair. Do you have a vivid hurtful childhood memory that you still remember and able to share?

6. Do you have someone you are able to share your deepest hurts and struggles with?

7. **1 John 4:16,17** *God is love, and whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God lives in him. By this is love perfected with us...* We're all created by God to receive and to express love. Are you able to do this?

8. **Jer 31:3** *The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: 'I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness'* Do you view God as having this sort of love for you, or as an angry Mr Policeman in the sky?

9. What 3 people have helped grow you the most, and release you in your work for Christ?

10. What does it mean to be tender-hearted (Eph 4:32)? Give an example of a tender-hearted person.

Pray for each other