

# 14 The Christian Community

**Objective:** To understand some of the negative ways in which the world may view Christianity, and to counteract those views with true examples of Christ-like living, both throughout history and in our daily lives.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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- Evil that is perpetrated by so-called Christians or in the name of Christianity is a reality that must be acknowledged and addressed.
- God hates hypocrisy  
1 John 4:20  
James 1:22-25  
1 John 2:1-6
- There are many examples, both ancient and recent, of Christ-followers embodying his teachings of radical love, self-sacrifice, service and forgiveness.
- The best example of what a Christian community looks like should be the one you set within your own community. People who are skeptical about the Christian faith will be persuaded more by how you treat those around you and in your church community than by rote recitation of the gospel message alone.
- There are copious opportunities to live out Christ's teachings within your church and community.
- The defining characteristic of an authentic Christian community is love.

**Notes:**