

## Small Groups @ TBC

### Sermon Discussion Notes

**Date of Sermon:** February 18th 2018

**Speaker:** David Lawrence

**Title:** Spirit of Mission: Walk in the Spirit

**Introduction:** The 'Spirit of Mission' series of talks intends to inspire us to see the importance of the work of the Spirit in our own attempts to share our faith and talk about Jesus. This talk explores three key passages in Galatians.

**Review:** Invite one or more who have heard the talk to give their own brief review.

**Read:** Galatians 1:3-5

**Reflect:**

- Paul here outlines the Good News that the Galatians had heard and responded to. How many different aspects of the good news can you find in these verses?
- Is it true that in most aspects of our lives 'we always naturally share good news' with those we know?
- What reasons might there be for holding back THE good news of Jesus?
- Can the good news of Jesus ever become stale and cease to feel 'good'?
  - How does that happen?
  - What can be done to keep the good news of Jesus fresh and real for us?

**Read:** Galatians 5:16-26

**Reflect:**

- Paul describes two ways of living. One is led and guided by the Holy Spirit (v16, 25). The other is to be led and guided by our 'flesh' (sinful nature). Is the tussle that Paul describes in v17 true to people's experience of life? Can anyone illustrate it from their own experience?
- Look at the two descriptions that Paul gives of the kinds of life that flow from being led by the flesh on the one hand (19-21) and being led by the Spirit on the other hand (22-23).
  - In terms of our witness on our frontlines, what is the effect of walking in the flesh?
  - And what is the effect of walking in the Spirit?
- How does Paul advise us to deal with our flesh life (24)? What does this mean in practice?
- Paul tells us to 'live by the Spirit' (16, 25), and to keep in step with the Spirit (25). Imagine that a new Christian is asking you what that means, and how they might keep in step with the Spirit? What advice do you give them?

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**Leaders:** feel free to be selective and creative with your use of these notes.

**Don't feel you have to use all of the material,** but  
do try to keep the shape of Review – Read – Reflect – Respond  
and **DO make room for the 'And Finally' questions!**

Thornbury Baptist Church:  
Following the Way of Jesus: Loving God - Loving One Another - Loving Neighbour & World

Finally:

Share what challenges you are facing in 'keeping in step with the Spirit' on your frontline at the moment. Pray for one another in the light of your conversation.

**And finally:**

As you conclude, ask each person:

- What is the main thing you are taking away as an action point?
- How can we pray for you?
- Is there anything we can check on next time we meet?

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