

## Small Groups @ TBC

### Sermon Discussion Notes

**Date of Sermon:** September 23rd 2018

**Speaker:** David Lawrence

**Title:** Spirit-Vision

**Introduction:** This passage falls into three broad sections: (1) God's wisdom, destined to bring us to glory, once a secret, has now been shown to us (6-9). (2) we are let into this open secret by means of the gift of the Spirit (10b-13). (3) People without the Spirit (natural people) cannot understand God's wisdom (14-16).

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

**Read:** 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

- God's wisdom is now an open secret (7).
  - What (or who) is God's wisdom, that Christians are now 'in on'? (see 1:30).
  - What does it mean that God's wisdom had been hidden (7)? Do Hebrews 1:1-3 and Luke 24:25-27 help?
  - When did people in the group first gain insight into God's wisdom, in Jesus Christ? What opened their eyes to see what previously had been hidden to them?
- Have you ever wondered why some people are Christians and some are not? Why do you think that is?
  - What is Paul's insight (10, 12, 14)?
  - Look at the story of Lydia coming to faith. How is the Holy Spirit at work in her conversion? (Acts 16:11-14).
  - If it is the work of the Spirit to open people's eyes to Jesus, what does that say about the way that we share our faith?
- In verse 9, Paul emphasizes the wonderful plan that God has in mind for believers. How does he describe this amazing destiny in verse 8?
  - NOTE: Glory is the weighty excellence of God's marvelous character, shown in the things that he makes and the things that he does. We see God's glory in Creation and understand that what we see reveals something of God's glorious character (Psalm 19:1)
  - What did it mean for Jesus to show God's glory through his time on earth? (John 1:14).
  - How do the group respond to the idea of being transformed into God's glory (2 Corinthians 3:18)? And what about being carriers (or prisms) for God's glory in our everyday lives? How does that work for people in the group?

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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

- How would you summarise Paul's main point in verse 11 & 12.
  - What does it mean to people in the group, that God has implanted his 'mind' (v15) in us, by the Spirit.
  - How does having the mind of Christ affect the way group members look at and deal with themselves, their jobs, their circumstances and their friends?

### Reflect :

#### 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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