

Thornbury Baptist Church  
Small Group Discussion Questions

**Talk Date:** February 15<sup>th</sup> 2026

**Talk title:** Inside out faith.

**Passage:** Matt 9: 14-17

**Speaker:** Paul Ferguson

### **Discussion Questions**

#### **1. Starting personally**

Where do you most notice the pull toward measuring your spirituality by performance rather than relationship with Jesus?

#### **2. Exploring the text (Matthew 9:14-15)**

What strikes you most about Jesus describing himself as the Bridegroom – and how does that reshape the way we think about drawing near to God?

#### **3. Naming the reflex**

The talk described the “performance reflex” (feeling behind, comparing, low-grade guilt). Which of these do you recognise in yourself, and what tends to trigger it?

#### **4. Living from participation**

If we truly believed we are already welcomed by Christ, what might change in the way we approach prayer, Scripture, service, or fasting?

#### **5. Looking forward in hope (Promise)**

How does the future picture of the wedding feast (Revelation 19:6-9) encourage you in your present walk with Jesus?

#### **6. Gentle reflection**

Where in this season of your life might Jesus be inviting you to move from striving into resting more deeply in His welcome?

### **Takeaway**

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

Spend time praying with one another in the light of your discussion.