

SERMON NOTES

SERIES: Gospel Fluency
TITLE: Gospel and Culture Part 1
SCRIPTURE: Various
DATE: June 4, 2017
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The word Gospel simply means Good News. When we read the word Gospel in the Bible and in most other places, we know that it is referring to the Good News about Jesus. The idea of fluency is used most often in relation to being able to speak two or more languages. Yet the word fluent means to be able to express oneself easily and articulately not necessarily just in foreign languages. Meaning when we talk about Gospel Fluency this summer, we are talking about being able to express and communicate the Good News about Jesus easily and articulately to yourself and others.

Lead in—A main theme of the whole Bible and the Gospel is that God steps toward unlikely people. God takes initiative with people, and moves toward them.

I. The Father Moves Toward People

- Genesis 3:8-10
- God moves toward those who have stepped away from him.
- People God steps toward in the Old Testament
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- Waiting is sometimes the hardest part about moving toward people. Think about how long God the Father had to wait for his people in the Old Testament.

II. Jesus Moves Toward People

- John 5:19
- Jesus only did what was inline with the Father's work. Jesus knew that throughout all of history, his Father moved toward people; so Jesus' life and ministry must be characterized by the same.
- People Jesus step toward in his earthly ministry
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- To continue the mission of God the Father and Jesus, Jesus tells us the Father has sent us a Helper (John 14:12-17)

III. The Holy Spirit Moves Toward People

- Acts 2:1-4; 36-38
- The a major theme of God's story and Jesus' ministry is now being worked out and through the church by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- As ambassadors of the Kingdom, we must align ourselves with the direction of our King and move toward unlikely people.

Gospel Encouragement: Considering the greatest steps ever taken:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Response: God moved toward us, so we can move toward him and others.

For Discussion —

1. Have you ever considered God moving toward people a major theme in the Bible before? How does that change your view of God and his mission?
2. What resonates with you the most when thinking about the type of people God the Father and Jesus stepped toward?
3. In what areas of your life do you need to step toward God as he steps toward you?
4. Who are you moving away from rather than moving toward?
5. As we as a church live out what it means to be a community of grace passionately pursuing life and mission with Jesus, you must understand that this includes a corporate and personal decision. We must all, together and individually, move towards people. Who do you need to step towards today?