

York St Small Groups

Sermon Based Studies

SUNDAY 18 October 2020

Deep Breath – Breathe In – Inspire
1 Thessalonians 1:1-9



These studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing.



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CHURCH OF CHRIST

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GETTING STARTED

Q1. Can you think of a time when you couldn't breathe; maybe when you were at the beach and pushed under the water, or an asthma attack where you had trouble breathing?

Q2. Those moments are scary to say the least... but are you aware of your spiritual breath? Think of a time when you simply knew God was with you, a time when you knew God was using your gifts to honour Him.

INTO THE WORD

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Q3. The word 'inspire' means to breathe but also to 'inspire' as in 'inspiration'. Depending on your version of scripture, this passage uses either "breathed" or "inspired" as God's word to equip us for life. How are you finding God's word in this season? Is it easy to read? Or are there struggles in your spiritual habits?

Read 2 Corinthians 10:5

Q4. We read that Paul is defending his ministry in this passage and in doing so shares that every thought he has he gives to Christ. It reminds us that the first step to having a deep spiritual life with Christ is to start thinking how God wanted us to think, we get our reference for Godly thinking from both God's word and the Holy spirit.

GOING DEEPER

Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-9

Q5. While every church planted in the early church was different, there were some similarities. The church in Thessalonica was a young church, Paul needed to leave Thessalonica abruptly with little infrastructure or habits and so Paul's letter is one of mostly encouragement. What we see in this passage is a radical transformation in the Christians from their past life. It is so radical that it's inspiring others, it comes from two main sources, firstly, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and secondly, the Holy Spirit. What can we learn from the church in Thessalonica in this passage about how we can live and how we can breathe deeply of both the Gospel and the Holy Spirit?

Pray

Heavenly Father, please allow us to breathe deeply once again, to inspire your Spirit, your teachings, your word, and your love, so that we can 'inspire' others with your influence in our lives. Help us to draw closer to you at this time, to break down the ways we encounter you and allow us to be open to however you wish to speak to us. Give us a passion for your spirit, and your word, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen