

# Gospel-Powered Life Workshop

## The Gospel Gap

**Luke 6.43-45:** What is Jesus teaching us about the unfruitfulness & ineffectiveness of our lives?

Connection: The heart's treasure has inescapable influence on our ways of thinking, speaking, and living

Treasure: What is functionally ruling your heart? What does your heart most deeply desire? (The focus!)

**2 Peter 1.1-9:**

What has God done for us and given to us? (v.1-4):

So what does Peter expect to happen in a Christian's life? (v.5-8):

But why then are we often unfruitful and ineffective? (v.9):

**Discuss:** What is the Bible telling us about real change and growth in the Christian life?

**Gospel Gap:** the space between confessional belief and functional belief - unevangelized territories of the heart

**3 Kinds of Blindness:** What are we blind to? What are we often unable to see and remember?

Identity:

Provision:

Process:

## Gospel-Gap Alternatives or Counterfeits

**Christian Externalism:** When our hearts are blind to the identity-provision-process of grace, what fills the gap?

Formalism:

Legalism:

Mysticism:

Activism:

Biblicism:

Psychology-ism:

Social-ism:

**Discuss:** Why are these replacements attractive? Where do you see yourself in the list?

**Everyday discipleship** is fueled/empowered by an ever-deepening repentance and rejoicing in the power of the gospel

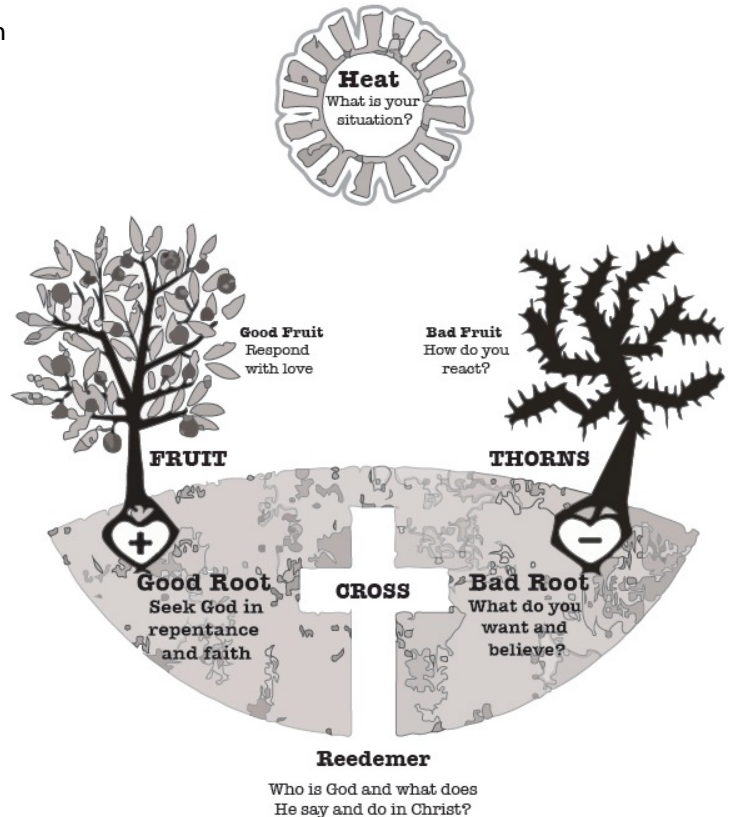
# Becoming Gospel Fluent

**Heat:** What is the circumstance, occasion, or situation in which you are seeing your unfruitful & ineffective ways?

**Thorns:** How do you react (bad fruit)? What do you want or believe, or what is ruling your heart (bad root)?

**Cross:** Who is God in the gospel? What has he said and what has he done in Christ (repent and rejoice)?

**Fruit:** What is true about me and what resources do I have (good root)? How will I respond in love (good fruit)?



## Repenting and Rejoicing Together

**Thorns & Fruit:** What is one area of thorns you long to see become fruit? Give a recent example - what was the situation?

**Root:** What is the lie underneath the thorns? What are you wanting or believing instead of the gospel? And why?

**Gospel:** What is your heart saying about Jesus and his work on the cross? What is your heart actually believing?

And is there a specific truth of the gospel that if deeply believed and truly experienced would change you?

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Personally: What is an area of growth you need personally? How is it connected to unbelief in the gospel?

Communally: What is one area of struggle/sin in your community? How would repentance & rejoicing change hearts?

Missionally: Think of a friend who doesn't know Jesus. What aspect of the gospel would be really good news for them?

## Understanding Idolatry

**DNA: Surface Idols & Source Idols (p.37-38)**

Where do you see yourself in the list on p.38?

How does your idolatry affect your closest relationships?

**Undermining Idolatry (p.39-40):**

Discuss: What is repentance?

Discuss: What is rejoicing?

# Discover, Nurture, Act (DNA)

For Soma, the primary context in which Gospel Fluency gets worked out and developed is in small discipleship triads called DNA. These groups meet regularly, 3 men or 3 women, for the purpose of learning, repenting, and walking the gospel life together. **It is our hope that completing this workshop equips you to participate in a DNA group.**

**Discover (Head):** Reading and discussing Scripture and/or “gospel and the heart” resources

**Nurture (Heart) :** Listening, asking questions, getting to roots, and speaking gospel truth in love

**Act (Hands):** Walking out repentance in fruitful & effective discipleship and disciple-making

**Next Steps:** Who might you pursue to this end? What would that require? How will you keep it gospel-centered?

Community: Who in your Community could you start connecting with more regularly and intentionally?

Spouse/Family: How will you prioritize gospel conversation with your spouse, kids, or family? (Rise, Sit, Way, Lie down)

Neighborhood/Network: With whom has God given you favor? What’s the next step toward sharing the good news?

## Everyday Discipleship

**Love:** Discipleship happens in the context of loving relationships - don’t give correction where there isn’t affection!

**Know:** Pursue the heart with redemptive curiosity - ask 10 questions to every 1 statement (ignorance, unbelief, rebellion)

**Speak:** Confront and comfort with the gospel, and call for renewed worship in Jesus - how does the gospel apply?

**Do:** Insight is not transformation, and God calls us to fruitful and effective living - what is the Spirit leading us to do?

## Questions for Redemptive Curiosity\*

- 1) What do you love? What do you treasure more than God or your neighbor?
- 2) What do you want? What do you desire? What do you crave, long for, wish? Whose desires do you obey?
- 3) What do you seek? What are your personal expectations and goals? What are you working for?
- 4) Where do you bank your hopes? What hope are you working toward or building your life around?
- 5) What do you fear? Fear is the flip side of desire (if I desire your acceptance, then I fear your rejection).
- 6) What do you think you need? Our assumed needs are often masks for heart idols.
- 7) What are you really going after in the situations & relationships of life? What are you working to get or fearing to lose?
- 8) Where do you find refuge, safety, comfort, and escape? Where do you run when stuff hits the fan?
- 9) What do you trust? Do you functionally rest in Jesus’ work? Or do you rest in something or someone else?
- 10) Whom must you please? Whose opinion counts? From whom do you desire approval or fear rejection?

*\*Adapted from “X-Ray Questions” by David Powlinson*

## How To Grow In Effective “Truth in Love” Ministry

Much of this material has been adapted from a few key resources, and the following are highly recommended:

You Can Change, Tim Chester (gospel growth)

How People Change, Paul Tripp & Timothy Lane (Three Trees)

Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hands, Paul Tripp (Love, Know, Speak, Do)