

## 4 Actions Every Relationship Needs

### Send Signals

October 15, 2017 / Jeff Gunn

<sup>43</sup> "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. <sup>44</sup> Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. <sup>45</sup> A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

**Luke 6:43-45, NIV**

The heart ( \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ) of a person determines the \_\_\_\_\_ the person produces.

<sup>16</sup> So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. **Galatians 5:16-18, NIV**

What determines my \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is the Holy Spirit. He calls me to \_\_\_\_\_ him.

<sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. **Galatians 5:19-26, NIV**

We send the wrong \_\_\_\_\_ to each other when we ...

- ✓ Display \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ Resort to \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ others and tell \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ Use the " \_\_\_\_\_ ".
- ✓ Fail to match our \_\_\_\_\_ with our \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>13</sup> You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love... <sup>15</sup> If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. **Galatians 5:13,15, NIV**

For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be. I fear that there may be discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.

**2 Corinthians 12:20, NIV**

<sup>16</sup> These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other... **Zechariah 8:16, NIV**

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. **1 John 3:18, NIV**

Where the flesh leads: All these result in broken \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. **John 1:14, NIV**

Where the Spirit leads: To \_\_\_\_\_, to forgiveness and restoration, to renewed \_\_\_\_\_ and changed \_\_\_\_\_.

### MEMORY VERSE

For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. **Luke 6:45, NIV**

**My next step:** I will repent of my acts of the flesh and ask the Holy Spirit to renew my heart and change my signals.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

## Impact Groups

### 4 Actions Every Relationship Needs – Send Signals

**Getting Started:** Every day we send and receive dozens of signals, make a list of what they are and what each is saying.

**Heart Check:** *Read Luke 6:43-45*  
In your own words, what does it mean that the mouth speaks what the heart is full of?

*Explain:* If a person's heart is wrong, their words and actions will eventually show it.

**Confusing Signals** *Read 2 Corinthians 12:20*  
What do people attempt to accomplish with signals like fits or rage, gossip, lying and the silent treatment?

Explain the feelings you have when people use the signals described in the previous question.

Agree or Disagree People don't do as good a job of hiding the way they feel as they think they do.

How can talking through an issue with a person help you understand a problem you might not even realize is bothering you?

### Break into groups of 2

What is a negative signal you use with others? Why do you use it? Why will you want to stop using it?

*Forgive* the person who has shared a negative signal they have used. Assure them that through Christ they are forgiven.

**Sending Signals** *Read Galatians 5:22-25*  
When someone is acting with the fruits of the spirit, what is it revealing about his/her heart?

*Exercise your faith:* Each person pick one fruit of the spirit mention in the Galatians passage. Give one signal that you can send to a person to communicate that fruit.

**Making Impact:**  
Quick check in: Did you meet a new neighbor this week – yes or no. If so, tell a little bit about them.

Planning a group impact project: The goal is to make a positive impact *in the neighborhood your group meets in while involving your neighbors as much as possible throughout the whole process.*

Here are some questions to work through first:

- Why do we want to do an impact project?
- What outcomes do we hope to reach through the project?
- What's the difference between doing a project "on" your neighborhood versus "with" your neighborhood? An impact project is ideally "with" your neighborhood.

Ask God to keep your eyes and ears open this week to the needs and opportunities in this neighborhood. Pray that he guides your group to a meaningful impact project.

### Close with Prayer