# Walking through treacle 5. Respect your detractors 2 Cor 2:14-3:6

# Doing things differently

### If you find some new way of doing things and you pursue it there will always be people who will stand back and shake their heads

## The next big section of 2 Corinthians (2:14-7:4) is about serving in the New Covenant

### Paul is being attacked for changing the ground rules for acceptable practices in the church

# God has made a NEW covenant

## A new agreement between Himself and human beings

### Using the Old Covenant to make people acceptable as family members cannot work under the new covenant

#### Even though the standards in the two are the same

## How do we commend ourselves in this covenant?

### We don’t, God does

### We don’t, you do

### The greatest commendation of any leader is what God thinks of them and what is achieved

# God likes the way you smell

## You exude thanksgiving and grace

### The fragrance of God’s grace spreads from you

## But not everyone likes your aroma!

# God wants you to be Spirit led

### Not just when He anoints you, but when he teaches you the difference between the spirit of the Law and the letter of the Law

## The breath of God (pneuma) is more valuable in shaping you than the written word (gramma)

### Paul was still led by God despite the lack of success as others measured it

#### The Spirit of God enabled him to see this

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Doing things differently

## In your experience, how have previous generations reacted to new ways of doing things?

## How do you react to new ways of doing things?

### What does doing something in a different way imply to those who have always done it their way?

### Are new ways always better?

#### Explain your answer

### Is this an age thing or something else?

# The New Covenant

## To what extent do you agree that the standards of the Old and New covenants are the same?

### In what ways are they the same? (try Deut 6:4-6; and the prelude to the 10 Commandments Ex 20:1,2)

### How are they different? (Try Deut 27:9-28:14)

## “To be a part of the Christian family you have to be born into it or adopted into it – there is no other way”

### To what extent do you agree with this?

## “God has no grandchildren”

### To what extent do you agree with this (saying that being the child of a Christian does not make you a Christian)?

# The Christian aroma

## What should characterise a Christian in the way they approach life, the world, challenges and death?

### Who are your heroes in this? Why?

## Can a person emulate the Christian aroma without being a Christian?

### Explain your answer

### What makes the Christian aroma unique?