

Word For The Week

4 January 2019

Preaching Dates

6 January 2019

Irene Campbell (am) at
Uddingston Baptist Church
Glen Cartwright (am) at
Fusion, Newton Mearns Baptist Church
Andrew Chalkley (am) at
Campbeltown Community Church
Stan Paliwoda (am) at Vale of Leven
Baptist Church, Alexandria
George Thomson (am) at
Coatbridge Baptist Church
Gordon Dickey (pm) at
Selkirk Care Home
Jim O'Hara (pm) at
Bo'ness Baptist Church
Stephen Ilett (am + pm) at
Alness Baptist Church
Cheryl Leckie (am + pm) at
Ayr Baptist Church
Jim McNulty (am + pm) at
Islay Baptist Church

8 January 2019

Hazel Brooks (pm) at
Mossspark United Church



"Reflecting Christ"

By Andrea Mill

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

At the start of a new year it is common to reflect on the highs and lows of the year just past. We may regret missed opportunities or mistakes or mourn the loss of loved ones and lost hope. There, too, may be much to rejoice over.

But do we take time to reflect on our development as people: as husbands, wives, friends, family or work relationships, as preachers? Have we become more loving? More joyful? Have more peace, patience and the other spiritual fruit? Do we dare to ask others for feedback?

And do we ever stop to ask God what He thinks of our growth? We know He could not possibly love us any more than He already does, so what we achieve in the world pales into insignificance. How would God measure our progress? Our text states that we are all in the process of becoming more like Christ, so if He does use any sort of measure, my feeling is that His heart rejoices over us even more when He sees more of Jesus in us, especially in how we relate to other people.

As Christ's ambassadors we represent him wherever we go and have a higher calling as preachers to be like Christ. So could I encourage you to take some time with the Holy Spirit as a New Year reflection. First, ask for some encouragement, asking Him to highlight areas in which you are reflecting more of Christ and then for some things to work on with His help. You could also widen the scope to include the SBLPA Personal Review Workbook available from our website – even reading through it might prompt change!

Becoming a Christian is just the beginning of our sanctification process. We are meant to keep growing and the more we hang out with Jesus, the more we will become like Him. Our creativity will blossom and we will feel more free to obey God irrespective of what other people might think. As a result, our preaching will become more passionate, prophetic and powerful and our earthly responsibilities will fall into place as we reflect His glory.

So this year I pray that God will pour out His abundant blessings upon you and your family and increase the anointing upon you to reflect His glory in all you do, especially as you preach.

Wishing you all an increasingly Christ-like 2019!