**Small Group Notes – Sunday January 22nd 2017  
Life in the Spirit – Spiritual Gifts: Teaching**

**Welcome**

Who were your best teachers? (favourite, most effective, most memorable…)  
What made them stand-out for you?

**Worship**

Read Psalm 138 and use it as a basis for a time of praise and worship.

**Word**

**Spiritual Gift of Teaching** (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:27-31)

* Recognise – what? – teaching the truth of God   
  (Mark 1:21; Matthew 7:29)
* Reason – why? – because we all need teaching….and to be ‘teachable’   
  (Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11-13)
* Responsibility – warning… to teachers: influence of their words & their lives  
  (James 3:1; 1 Timothy 4:13-16)
* Response
  + Teaching not our gift: thankful, prayerful, teachable, encouraging, open
  + Teaching is our gift: thankful, prayerful, teachable, encouraged, open

1. What things strike you about the description of the early church in Acts 2:42?
2. From Ephesians 4:11-13, what are the things that our ‘teachers’ (along with others) are working for?   
   How teachable are you? Can that improve? How?
3. What are some reasons for the warning in James 3:1 and the instructions in 1 Timothy 4:13-16?   
   How can ‘teachers’ best respond to these?   
   How should they inform all of us in our prayers and our actions?
4. How can the group help anyone who is sensing God giving them this spiritual gift of teaching? (Is there anyone in the group sensing this?)
5. What are you going to do differently as a result of this sermon & study?

**Prayer**

For those who teach us God’s truth within the church, and our response to them   
For teachers and other school staff who we know in their work and witness  
For our own response to the Malden Manor Church-Plant   
For our mission partners overseas, teaching God’s truth across cultures