

# **Partnership Sunday**

## **February 8, 2026**

### **Sermon Points:**

#### **1. Called to Freedom, Shaped for Service: Serving Heart, Serving Hands.**

- The school theme comes from Galatians 5:13 and points to serving with heart and hands.
- Service is vital in forming students “to be the best for Hong Kong, for the world, for Christ,” but service is not the starting point.
- Gal 5:13 – We are first “called to be free,” and then told not to use freedom to indulge the flesh, but to “serve one another humbly in love.”

#### **2. Love Your Neighbor as Yourself Gal 5:14–18**

- “For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”
- This becomes the diagnostic question for obedience: Are you loving your neighbor as yourself?
- Our “sin-ravished wiring” makes us selfish and at war with our Maker, but Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross frees God’s children to live, love, and serve out of grace.
- Experiencing God’s love and grace fundamentally changes how we approach serving others—in volunteering, paid work, and teaching—because the interior of the heart makes all the difference.

#### **3. Flesh vs. Spirit: What’s Growing in Us? Gal 5:19–26**

- Acts of the flesh: “sexual immorality... hatred, discord, jealousy... selfish ambition... envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.” These are an object lesson, not a complete checklist.
- The real concern is not others’ sins but the sins we struggle with ourselves.
- Types of Temptations: Pleasure, Power, Position or Persuasion—illustrated through Jesus’ wilderness temptations in Matthew 4:1–11, all resisted by relying on God’s Word.
- Fruit of the Spirit: “love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control... Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”
- Like branches connected to the vine, those who belong to Christ and crucify the flesh will naturally bear this fruit.

#### **4. Partnership in Forming Christlike Servants "Service: Serving Heart, Serving Hands."**

- The school is a partner in training students for academic and spiritual service; the church comes alongside teachers, administrators, students, and families to help all grow to be more like Jesus.

- As we become more like Jesus, the virtues of the Spirit become part of us and flow out into relationships at home, at work, and in the world.
- The theme “Service: Serving Heart, Serving Hands” is completed as we serve one another and, in that serving, are refined to be more like Jesus.
- Prayer: that we grow in God’s love and grace, in Jesus-likeness, and in serving others just like Jesus.

**Personal Notes**

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