



“And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world...” (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week’s lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
or Standard Lesson Quarterly®.

A CERTAIN KIND OF SPIRIT

A free-speech contest held in a Dallas suburb last week offered a \$10,000 prize for the best caricature of Mohammed, the prophet of Islam. The featured speaker was Dutch right-wing politician Geert Wilders, a critic of radical Islam. At one point, two men who claimed to act in the spirit of radical Islam drove up and began shooting. One person was wounded before police killed the shooters. One of the gunmen had declared his allegiance to ISIS just before the attack.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF SPIRIT

Scripture tells us to conduct ourselves in ways that are in keeping with the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:25; etc.). And it is the same Spirit who equips us to be able to do so, as this week’s lesson affirms. How we use that giftedness will be seen in the fruit we bear.

1. Is it appropriate for Christians to satirize other religions? Why, or why not?
2. How should Christians react, if at all, to cartoons that mock Christ or the Christian faith?
3. What, in your experience, do Christians most get wrong about the nature and use of spiritual gifts? Why?
4. What spiritual gift or gifts do you have? How did you reach that conclusion?
5. What can you do in the week ahead to help another Christian discover and/or develop his or her spiritual gift(s)?

—*Charles R. Boatman*

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