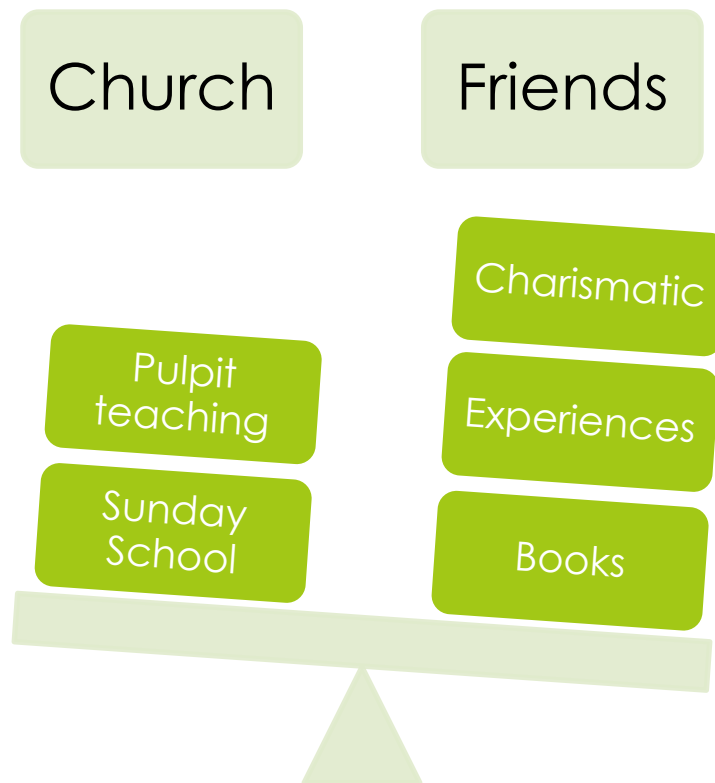


The Holy Spirit and I

18 Feb 2024

My exposure to teachings about the Holy Spirit



John 14:16-17

16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 17the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

The Trinity

- I (Jesus)
- (God) The Father
- Another advocate (the Holy Spirit)
- Gen 1:26-27 – Let Us make man
- Gen 3:22 – become one of Us
- Gen 11:7 – let Us go down.

Our God is Trinitarian God.

God is three persons in one essence – God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit. God is not a jumbled-up mix of the 3 persons, nor is there a hierarchical relationship between the 3 persons. They each have a distinct identity, differentiated roles and interacts one with the other. Yet, they share the same essence, for instance, their eternality; Jesus existed before all things (Col 1:17). Jesus says in John 17:24 “Father, you loved me before the creation of the world”. God, in his role as the Father, called Israel “my firstborn son” (Ex 4:22) and Isaiah prays “You are our Father” (Isa 63:18). Jesus is loved of the Father and loves the Father (John 3:35), and He does exactly what the Father commanded Him (John 14:31). The Nicene Creed sums it up as the Son coming forth from the Father (eternal generation of the Son) and the Spirit proceeds from the Father (eternal procession of the Spirit).

Watch Tower – Jehovah Witness

“...God’s holy spirit is not a God, not a member of a trinity, not coequal, and is not even a person... It is God’s *active force*, not Jehovah’s power residing within himself, but his energy when projected out from himself... It is not blind, uncontrolled force, such as the forces of ‘nature,’ lightning, hurricanes and the like, but... is at all times under his control... and therefore may be likened to a radar beam.”

The Watch Tower, July 15, 1957, 432-33

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, the third person in the Trinity, is God. He is not a force. He is given the co-rank with God as seen in the baptism formula given in Matt 28:19-20. “.. baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” In John 13-17, Jesus in his Upper Room discourse taught about the various roles that the Spirit will be doing when He departs. These include teaching, reminding everything that Jesus had said (John 14:26), testifying about Him (John 15:26) and convicting the world of guilt. The Spirit will tell you what is to come (John 16:13).

Gospel of John

- I. The Prologue, 1:1-51
- II. The Manifestation of Jesus to the World: The Book of Signs, Discourses and Claims, 2:1– 12:50 (Seven Signs and Seven “I AMs”)
 - A. Cycle One: Galilee and Jerusalem, 2:1–4:42
 - B. Cycle Two: Galilee and Jerusalem, 4:43–5:47
 - C. Cycle Three: Galilee and Jerusalem, 6:1–12:50
 1. Galilee: The Feeding of 5,000 and the Calming of the Sea, 6:1-71
 2. Jerusalem, Sub-cycle One: The Feast of Tabernacles, 7:1–8:59
 3. Jerusalem, Sub-cycle Two: A Sabbath Healing, 9:1–10:39
 4. Jerusalem, Sub-cycle Three: The Raising of Lazarus and Entry to the City, 11:1–12:50
- III. The Ministry of Jesus to the Disciples: The Book of Instructions, 13:1–17:26 (Upper Room Discourse)
- IV. The Death of Jesus: The Book of Suffering and Glory, 18:1–20:29 (The Crucifixion and Resurrection)
- V. The Revelation of Jesus: The Purpose of John’s Writing, 20:30-31
- VI. The Epilogue, 21:1-25

John 14:16

1. Advocate

2. Help

3. Be with you

- The word “another” means “one of the same kind.”
- The word Helper translates the ancient Greek word “parakletos”. This word has the idea of someone called to help someone else, and it could refer to an advisor, a legal defender, a mediator, or to an intercessor.

John 14:16

1. Advocate

2. Help

3. Be with you

▣ The King James Version translates "parakletos" with the word Comforter. That translation made more sense understanding the meaning of the word in older English. "Wicliff, from whom we have our word Comforter, often used 'comfort' for the Latin confortari, which means to strengthen... Thus the idea of help and strength is conveyed by it.

John 14:16

1. Advocate

2. Help

3. Be with you

- Gives power for service:
 - In OT, HS endows Bezalel with artistic skills for the construction of the tabernacle (Ex 31:3)
 - HS came upon Gideon (Judges 6:34) enabling him to lead Israel from their oppressors.
 - In NT, Anointing and empowering Jesus as Messiah; I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven and it remained on him (John 1:32)
 - You shall receive power when the Spirit has come upon you (Acts 1:8)

John 14:16

1. Advocate

2. Help

3. Be with you

- ▣ Gives power for service:
 - ▣ Giving spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:7-11)
- ▣ Helping us in prayer. The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans (Rom 8:26)
- ▣ Sanctifies us: By the Spirit we are able to put to death the deeds of the body and grow in personal holiness (Rom 8:13, Phil 1:19)

John 14:16

1. Advocate

2. Help

3. **Be with you**

- ▣ Gives us reassurance: The HS bears witness with our spirits that we are children of God (Rom 8:16)
- ▣ Instructs and teaches us and illumines: The HS will teach you all things and bring to your remembrances all I have said to you (John 14:26)
- ▣ Unifies us: For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body (1 Cor 12:13)

John 14:16 – Reflect

1. Advocate

□ We are not orphans, not alone, how will you run to Him?

2. Help

□ Which area of your life is in need of God's help?

3. Be with you

□ He teaches us, are we listening?