

Sermon series on the Trinity – October 2018.

Week 3 -The Holy Spirit.

Outline of sermon:

- Who is the Holy Spirit ?
- “ I believe in ...”
- The role of the Spirit

Bible references:

- The Holy Spirit marks us as belonging to God. EPH. 1:13-14 He is our seal of salvation, so that God can see from Heaven and know us to be His sons and daughters, He becomes our direct line, through Jesus, to the Father. He convicts us of sin and the need for righteousness in our lives. JOHN 16:8 He teaches us to obey the Lord and to trust Him to direct our every step, and to put all our cares on Him for He is greater than any problem. Through the Spirit we learn to develop greater reliance on the Lord, and less on human wisdom, or strength, or our own abilities.
- The Spirit knows our search for truth in the visible world is futile, we must seek God's Word. JOHN 17-7 JOHN 16-13 He teaches us ways to see things deeper than what's on the surface, to help point out blind spots in our minds eye to those areas that are not completely yielded , or fully surrendered to God.
- The Holy Spirit helps us to know God. EPH. 1:17 - 18 He makes us wise and reveals God to us, and He helps us to understand the mind of God. Without the Spirit, you cannot understand the things of God. We need spiritual “eyes” in our hearts in order to see God and His ways more clearly. That's when we begin to understand the mind of God, how He thinks, and how that knowledge will help us in our daily walk. The more we want know of Him, the more the Spirit reveals to us.
- One of the most important things the Holy Spirit does for us is to help us learn to think like God. When His Spirit takes over our thoughts, that's when things happen. Our priorities change. Before Christ, it was all about me, what I could do, what I wanted, what I thought was best. We don't belong to ourselves anymore, we belong to God. We've been bought by a price and are no longer our own. We become better because God's Spirit is a superior influence in our life, not because we are superior as individuals.
- The Holy Spirit gives wisdom beyond our natural abilities, as we learn to listen to Him. JAMES 3:17 If we allow ourselves to be totally immersed in God, to focus on His thoughts, then we can do powerful things in this world.
- The Spirit helps us to pray. He guides us in what to pray for and how to pray. ROMANS 8:26 When we are committed to praying seriously, the Spirit helps us know what to pray for and can bring God's power into the lives of those we care about through intercession.
- The Spirit seeks to bring greater joy to the Lord through every believer. JOHN 16-14 He gives gifts to whomever He will for the purpose of giving glory to God.
- 1 COR. 12:4-6 Our motivation for receiving the Holy Spirit is not to have a 'gift' but to want to be everything that God wants us to be, and not miss out on the blessings he wants to give us. The Spirit gives us power to see God's purpose for our life. God has called each of us to follow Him and has given us a purpose and a hope. That's our reason for following Him and for doing what we do, how very great is His power at work in us.

The Holy Spirit reminds us of who we are in Christ.

WE ARE :

- . God's children JOHN 1:12
- . Christ's friend JOHN 15:15
- . United with the Lord 1COR. 6:17
- . Bought with a price 1 COR. 6:19-20
- . Member of the body of Christ 1 COR. 12:27
- . A saint, set apart for God EPH. 1:1
- . Established, anointed, sealed by God COL. 2:10
- . Citizen of Heaven PHIL. 3:20
- . Salt and light of the earth MAT. 5:13-14
- . Assured all things work together for God ROM 8:28
- . God's Temple 1COR. 3:16
- . Seated with God in Heavenly realms EPH. 2:6
- . Redeemed and forgiven COL. 1:14
- . A personal witness of Christ ACTS 1:8
- . Can approach God with freedom and confidence EPH. 3:12
- . Cannot be separated from love of God ROM 8:35-39
- . Can do all things through Christ . PHIL 4:13
- . A branch of the true vine JOHN 15:1-5
- . Complete in Christ COL 2:10

In short, we belong to God!

Books and webpages that might help :

'The Shack' by William P Young.

'Knowing God' by J I Packer

'Reaching for an Invisible God' by Philip Yancey

Mindful Christianity today – Facebook Page

The Celtic Christian Tradition – Facebook Page

Suggestions for study:

1. What do you understand by the Holy Spirit?
2. Look up some of the Bible references – which one speaks to you best?
3. Why do we use creeds in our worship?