

What ever happened to the Holy Spirit?

By www.faceuponline.co.uk

Read - Matthew 3:16-17 Jesus' Baptism

Here we have a picture of the Trinity in all three persons.

The "Spirit of God" or Holy Spirit, is at Jesus' baptism "descending like a



present dove & settling on him"

It's difficult to dispute the fact that there are clearly three independent personalities within the God Head from this passage of scripture but there are many Christians today who down play, if not ignore, the Holy Spirit from their understanding & daily experience of God.

Yet Jesus the man is here being publically recognised by God the Father as His "dearly loved Son" & this is sealed by the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Q. Why do you think the Holy Spirit took the form of a dove?

Most Christians today can relate to God as Father, all powerful & all knowing. They can relate to God the Son who came & died for them, making it possible to have a relationship with the Holy Father through the sacrifice He paid for us. But how do you relate to the Spirit of God?

Q. How can you communicate with the Holy Spirit?



Q. How does He answer back?

In the Bible we see a Supernatural natural side to Jesus' ministry in his many healings and miracles. In fact he even charged his

Disciples to **GO** and do likewise.

Read – Luke 9: 1-2

Q. How would you feel if you were asked to do this?

Jesus left his followers with a call to obedience in **Matthew 28: 18-20**
“..obey everything I have commanded you.”

Q. What did He mean by everything?

Q. Where does the supernatural side of His ministry fit in the church today?

It is fair to say that in many churches today the Holy Spirit is paid lip service to but if He was at the core of what Jesus did and we are supposed to be followers of Jesus...



Q. Whatever happened to the Holy Spirit?

Read – 1 Cor 2:4

If Paul claimed he relied on the Holy Spirit how much more so do we?

Ok so we may already admit that from scriptural evidence the Holy Spirit should play an active role in the Church & the personal life of a Christian but what are we going to do about it?

The Holy Spirit by His very nature is difficult to gain a logical understanding of which is uncomfortable for a lot of us. We know He can choose to give us Spiritual Gifts.

Read – 1 Corinthians 12 : 1-11

You just have to read on in the chapter to see these gifts are designed to build up the body of Christ.

Q. How do the different spiritual gifts build us up?

They also seem to play a part in sharing the gospel.

Read – Hebrews 2: 4

Our message is profoundly affected by the amount we let the Holy Spirit work in us & through us. We always need to remember we are all on a spiritual journey, sharing the lessons we learn with each other and allowing the Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus in nature.

Read – Galations 5: 22

That way we become more and more effective in representing Jesus to the world around us.

Discuss Application:

Q. How can we allow the Holy Spirit a greater chance to work in us?

Q. What personal responsibility have we in seeing the Holy Spirit thrive in our church?



Time to pray about this!