

to live true to who we are. Forget all that other rubbish. When someone treats you bad, give your best. Why? Because that's who you are. That's who Jesus has given his life for you to be. In Jesus, that's who you are, and that's the truth. Live it, Enjoy it. Share it. Stay with Jesus' game plan.

I know in my office as I think things through, everything seems so clear and straight forward, but once you get out into the hurly burly of life and relationships it's a different story. I need to be kept motivated, cause at times you feel

like; 'why bother'. Thank God for the Holy Spirit, coming and encouraging, motivating me.

Thank God for the Holy Spirit, who doesn't let me lose sight of Jesus' game plan. I need a life coach, and I can't think of anyone better than the Holy Spirit.

Especially seeing he's Jesus chosen man. The Holy Spirit is there to help me stay focused on being true to who I am in Jesus, so that I love others with my life, giving my life for them, in the same way Jesus has loved me.

Let us Pray.
Jesus thankyou for sending the Holy Spirit. Open our minds, heart and soul to his leading that we may be motivated by him to do you will. That we might listen to him as our life coach, never losing sight of your game plan, but putting it into action; as we listen to your truth, and live in your love, bring your kingdom to everyone we meet this week. Amen.

Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' Disciples, who grow disciples, who grow disciples, who grow disciples...

22 May 2011

WHO IS THIS HOLY SPIRIT—3

John 14:15-17



Over the last few weeks as we have been focused on the Holy Spirit, I've noticed that first the Holy Spirit is God's personal presence with us, now. Because God wants to be sharing his life with us, now. So we don't receive some mystical power, but the person of the Holy Spirit comes to live life with us.

Last week it struck me that the Holy Spirit is very social. He wants to live in community, he loves sharing life with us, as we share life with each other, with Jesus at the centre.

Today's Gospel reading also reminds me that God is social. We have this wonderful image of the relationship between the Father and the Son, a relationship we're invited to be part

of. And the Holy Spirit leads us into this relationship, helping us to be a living part of God's life.

So Jesus says; "If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – the Spirit of truth." John 14:15-17

Did you notice that the Holy Spirit wasn't given so that I could do awesome things but that I can know an awesome God? Get to know the real person behind all the hype. He's the Spirit of truth, and Jesus told us this morning; "I am the truth... No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

The Holy Spirit introduces me to the

real Jesus, so we can have a real down-to-earth relationship. He tells me the true, which is essential for any healthy relationship. Did I mention last week that the Holy Spirit was The Great Communicator, and to do that it is essential he tells the truth.

What is the Devil renowned for? "Jesus said to them, 'If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him.

When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” John 6:42-44

The devil obscures, mixes everything up so that it’s not clear. And when things are not clear in a relationship the seeds of doubt are planted. Seeds which unfortunately grow well in this mixed up environment.

When we speak the truth, there is no room for the seeds of doubt to be planted, let alone grow. Jesus sends, The Spirit of truth, to introduce us to the real person, so we can have a real relationship with him, not something that is murky and unreal.

Today the Holy Spirit tells me something important about Jesus. Jesus said; “If you love me, keep my commands.” John 14:15 Jesus isn’t determined by what I like, by what I think, by

what I want. Jesus gives me a clear outline. The word ‘command’ reminds me of this. To build a healthy, vibrant, living relationship with Jesus I need to listen to his command, to listen to what Jesus is thinking, and not seek to impose my will, trying to shape Jesus according to what

The Holy Spirit is the Great Motivator

I want. That’s part of the Devil’s lie. The truth is that Jesus will always remain true to who he is, and simply refuses to be conformed by the latest opinion poll. Jesus is not a plastic person who is putty in everyone’s hands trying to be the person that pleases them. No Jesus knows who he is, and stays true to that. So we can get to know the real person. So we can build

a relationship based on truth.

So what are Jesus commandments? “I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one that this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:12-17

The Holy Spirit isn’t only the ‘Great Communicator’, but he seeks to communicate God’s love.

Plenty of advertisers are good at communicating their message. The Devil was good at motivating Adam and Eve. He got them to believe what they saw would enhance their lives, that they’d be foolish not to at least try it. But his motive wasn’t based on love, but revenge. His

desire was to hurt God, to tear away from him the people he loves.

Just because someone is a good talker, very persuasive, and looks sensational doesn’t mean they can be trusted. What’s their motive? The Holy Spirit reminds me daily that Jesus motive is that he loves me. In fact Jesus has given his life for me. Here is a person I can trust with my life, he’s not simply in it for what he can get out of it. To Jesus I’m precious and loved, I’m not a meaningless face in the crowd, or just another number. I’m the object of Jesus love.

What is Jesus’ command? It’s not some rule we have to keep to get a good deal, but it reflects his very personality. It reflects his motive. If reveals what is on his heart and soul. Jesus command is to love as he does. Anything else Jesus isn’t interested in.

Isn’t that Good News. Jesus isn’t interested in revenge, or simply getting his own way. Jesus isn’t interested in repaying hurt for hurt, or turning green with envy. Jesus isn’t interested in amassing huge wealth so he can feel secure and good about himself. Jesus

The Holy Spirit is the Great Coach

Isn’t interested in fighting, or bullying you, or intimidating you. He just simply doesn’t want to have anything to do with any of this sort of destruct behaviour. Jesus is interested in investing himself completely in loving; loving you, creating a loving community, you loving yourself in a healthy way, so that you are motivated by the love you have in Jesus.

Jesus’ great desire is that we live under his blessing. That we move from the curse of the law, to live under the grace of God’s mercy.

Wouldn’t it be great to live in a world where we loved each other, as Jesus loves us? Where we were prepared to die for each other, because we were each staying true to who we are in Jesus.

The Holy Spirit is also the great motivator, who seeks to motivate us to live true to who we are. And what are we? According to our reading from Peter this morning; “You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession... Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” 1 Peter 2:9,10

The Holy Spirit is the great coach who gets us