

CLOTHED WITH POWER 2

Jesus & The Spirit

As always, Jesus is our PATTERN, PRECEDENT, EXAMPLE

- * He is PERFECT THEOLOGY
- * He MODELS the Spirit-led ministry to which we ASPIRE.

THE RESPECTIVE ROLES OF THE TRINITY (Acts 10:38)

Father is the SOURCE: The One who APPOINTS & ANOINTS.

Jesus is the PRECEDENT: The MODEL, WORD MADE FLESH.

Holy Spirit is the MANIFESTER: The PRESENCE & POWER.

The Father is the ANOINTER.

Jesus is the ANOINTED.

Holy Spirit is the ANOINTING.

The Father CALLS, Jesus ENACTS & the Spirit ENABLES.

→ *How do you understand the different roles within the Trinity & how they affect / define / influence your relationships with Father, Son & Holy Spirit?*

EMPTIED (Philippians 2:7)

Jesus came to earth as a MAN & operated under the POWER of the HOLY SPIRIT.

- * Emptied not of His divine CHARACTER: He was STILL perfect, pure & holy.
- * But of divine POWER: Omnipresence, omniscience & omnipotence.
- * It was the ANOINTING that gave Him POWER.
- * Jesus ministered from Spirit-empowered HUMANITY, rather than pre-incarnate DIVINITY.
- * We too carry that ANOINTING; we just need to learn HOW it works.
- * Fortunately, Jesus gave us a PERFECT DEMONSTRATION.

→ *Of what did Jesus 'empty' Himself? Why? How did that change the way He ministered?*

→ *"If Jesus had operated out of His divinity, we could have shrugged & said, 'That rules me out!'" Why is the fact that Jesus operated out of Spirit-empowered humanity, rather than His divinity, so significant to us?*

JESUS' RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- * Jesus didn't start ministering UNTIL He'd received His ANOINTING (Luke 3:21-22).
- * Jesus operated FULL of, LED by & in the POWER of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:1,2,14).

→ *Can you think of Bible verses that call us to live 'full of,' 'led by' and 'in the power of' the Holy Spirit?*

- * Jesus skilfully ministered AS ONE ANOINTED in every story (Luke 4:18-21, Acts 10:38)

- * Jesus flowed freely & expertly in all the GIFTS of the SPIRIT (1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Mark 2:8, John 4:16-19, 9:6-7, Matthew 24-25).

→ *What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit & what examples can you give of Jesus operating in any of them? (If short of ideas, look up the verses above)*

HOW CAN WE CULTIVATE SUCH A RELATIONSHIP?

1. INTIMACY

- * We see Jesus repeatedly INVESTING in His relationship with the Holy Spirit (Luke 5:16, Mark 1:35).
- * To Jesus, the Holy Spirit was His constant COMPANION, FRIEND, GUIDE, INSPIRATION, SOURCE.
- * The Holy Spirit is not an IMPERSONAL FORCE, but a PERSON to be BEFRIENDED.
- * Best Tip: Start & maintain a CONSTANT DIALOGUE.

→ *How do you personally invest in that relationship / cultivate intimacy with the Holy Spirit? What do you think it could be like? What might that dialogue look like?*

2. DEPENDENCY (John 5:19-20, 4:34)

- * Means to RELY, TRUST, LEAN.
- * Danger: I DEPEND on ME ... and then wonder why I don't get SUPERNATURAL RESULTS (John 3:6, 6:63).
- * The Retraining: The WORLD is training you to become SELF-DEPENDENT; God wants you to be HOLY SPIRIT DEPENDENT.

→ *If you're honest, how dependent are you on the Holy Spirit? What gets in the way? How might you become less self-dependent & more Holy Spirit-dependent?*

→ *If you're self-dependent, what sorts of things do you rely on? Common-sense? Past experience? How do they keep you from naturally supernatural?*

3. CURIOSITY

- * Are you STUCK in a RUT, doing what you've ALWAYS done?
Or is there MORE
- * Is there a QUICKENING? STIRRING? PULL you can't resist? A flash of INSPIRATION that's far too bright?
- * Any of that may well be the Holy Spirit KNOCKING on the DOOR
... Competing for your ATTENTION.
- * The Key Question: Are we even LISTENING?
- * Do we EXPECT the Holy Spirit to do something or not?
- * The Danger: In the ABSENCE of CURIOSITY, we QUENCH the Spirit's input (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

→ *Are you stuck or are you curious? Are you expectant or have you stopped looking? How might you become more curious and what would that mean you're on the look out for?*

→ *Can you think of any Biblical or historical figures whose curiosity opened the door for the leadership and/or intervention of the Holy Spirit?*

RESPONSE

Which of those 3 words most grab your attention?

1. *Is it INTIMACY? Do you need to invest in cultivating closeness of relationship with Holy Spirit?*
2. *Is it DEPENDENCY? Do you need to stop merely doing own thing & start leaning on the Holy Spirit?*
3. *Is it CURIOSITY? Do you need to open your spiritual eyes, ask leading questions or start that dialogue?*