

Hello...Hello

As Christians we believe & relate to God in a way that no other faith does... We believe that God is a TRINITY... Three persons in one.

FATHER – SON – HOLY SPIRIT

As humans we are also **Made** in Gods image... as triune beings.

BODY - MIND - SPIRIT

Mostly we understand our Body & our mind... but we often struggle to understand our spirit. We look after our physical health, and we care about our mental health... our minds... Yet all too often we totally neglect our Spirit... our spiritual health.

We pretty much do the same with God too!

Jesus? He is God's son. 'God in a bod.' It's Not always a simple idea but understandable.

God? He's the Father. Imagine the perfect father and you're there. Any detailed questions go into the categories of almighty, omniscient, omnipresent, timeless, and eternal. Not simple either but at least He fits in a category.

But... **The Holy Spirit** is *unique*... and to many people.... *mysterious*. There's not a category for Him. He doesn't fit into any of our 'boxes'.

We don't hear that many sermons about The Holy Spirit as a person. We almost act like He doesn't exist because we don't understand Him... and not many preachers will stick their necks out to try and teach us, help us understand... If you know me you *know* I'm not a theologian. But one of my passions is to inspire people to *live* their faith... not just learn & understand it.

It's obvious that we can't live in intimate relationship with our Triune God while we act like one of His three persons of this trinity doesn't exist!

So, We're going to use a real world 'everyday thing' to explain how it works for me.. how I often experience the Holy Spirit.

Almost everyone has a smartphone, right? Come on... Get them out, Hold them up...fantastic ...wow we have som posh phones here! OK... Now switch them to 'Silent' Great...now I won't be interrupted! LOL

So how do these things Work? This is what happens when you switch it on...

When someone tries to call or text you, a signal goes out from the cellular network. It 'pings' your smartphone connecting through its SIM card. It's asking (electronically) "Is your phone on, off, or in airplane mode?" "Where are you?" "Are you listening?"

Once you've been 'pinged' and found to be available, the network sends the call or text to your phone. You can take the call or read the text or ignore them... you can even reject the call.... You have **Free Will**. You're never **forced** to respond.

You and I are a bit like a smartphone. We're made in God's image, equipped with a human spirit that's specifically and uniquely designed by the Creator . . . one of a kind . . . fearfully and wonderfully made, each one of us is different with a unique IMEI code and a unique sim & phone number... God knows each & every one of us...and he never get's a wrong number... He never makes nuisance calls trying to sell us stuff...and He never Scams us....

When we place our faith in Jesus, and God adopts us into His family, the SIM card that came built into our souls gets **activated** to a **New Network**. Now we're on God's network.

The Holy Spirit is like the cellular network.

When God wants to communicate with us, He sends a signal to us through the Holy Spirit.

- Sometimes, it's the idea of praying.
- Sometimes, it's the urge that moves us to call someone,
- Write a cheque,
- Read the Bible,
- Go back home, or other specific location.
- Ask forgiveness,
- Or take a risk to accomplish something important.

As is always the case with God,

- He doesn't *require* us to answer the call.
- He never leaves a voice message.
- He doesn't usually resend text messages.
- He simply *invites* us to connect with Him and to know His will.

This means we have to be paying attention. Taking the call and moving in response to what He says to us **builds our faith** and **blesses us** and also **blesses others** through us.

Ignoring the Holy Spirit's call deadens our sensitivity, and over time, we no longer hear the ring or feel the vibration.

Rom 8:26 NIV hybrid *In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for...But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groaning's that cannot be expressed in words.*

So if the Holy Spirit is the cellular network that connects God and me, what do the messages say and how do I know it's Him I hear?

What kinds of things does He ask me to do?

When God speaks, what does He say?

God almost always speaks about *things that lie at the centre of our relationship with Him*.

We don't expect stock market tips, directions to avoid traffic... or medical diagnoses.

Here are a few of the messages I've received from God via the Holy Spirit . . .

1. **Encouragement** – When I ask, “What would You have me know today?” God often responds with an affirmation of His love for me. Sometimes when I pray for someone else, He’ll remind me that **He loves that person as well.**
2. **Direction** – When I sit silently with the Lord and ask, “Jesus, who would You have me pray for today?” He consistently brings people to mind. Often, He’ll also give me a sense for how to pray for them. A lot of times, I’ll ask for a certain outcome, and He’ll remind me that I’m trying to do His job for Him, but then reassure me that I’ve been heard.
3. **Guidance** – “What would **You** have me do with what You’ve shown me, Lord?” Sometimes the answer is *“Trust Me . . . I’ve got this!”* Or *“Just love them, don’t try to fix them.”* Sometimes there’s silence and a sense that I need to wait before doing something. Frequently there’s a challenge . . . a reminder to drop *my expectations* and **trust Him.**
4. **Remembrance** – God will often brings a verse to mind when I’m praying. The more Scripture we know, the easier it is to hear what He’s saying, which is why its important to Read & to memorise scripture... John 14:26 ESV says, *“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”*
5. **Peace** – In those times when I worship God and call out His name in adoration and praise, I feel His presence in my soul... whether He speaks to me or not. I feel his presence in me. We can never demand the Holy Spirit do anything, but we can rest *in faith* that God loves us, hears us and is with us. Just because He’s silent doesn’t mean He’s still.

These are things that God want to say to you.....

Because He is a Good & perfect Father who wants to communicate with His children.

If we ignore Him... or refuse him.. or worse cut of his call... we won’t hear the Holy Spirit speak. We wont receive his life-changing messages.

So pick up His Call... or Call Him yourself!

Our Heavenly Father stands ready for our call. The network is always up!

Jer 29:12 MSG *“When you call on me, when you come and pray to me, I’ll listen.*

Ps 95:15 Nlrv He will call out to me, and I will answer him. I will be with him in times of trouble. I will save him and honour him.

Habakkuk 2:1 Nlrv I will go up to the lookout tower. I’ll station myself on the city wall. I’ll wait to see how the LORD will reply to me. Then I’ll try to figure out how to answer him.

God is leading me in New paths of prayer... & I pray he will lead you to as you seek to get more deeply connected to Him.