

ON MISSION WITH GOD

THE PARTNER IN THE PROCESS – PART II

CDC Home Group Leaders Notes

ARE WE ALONE?

Q. Are we alone in the mammoth project of bringing the gospel to the nations of the world?

Jesus said that he would send another like himself who will be in us and with us. In Acts 1:8 Christ promises that the Spirit of God will empower us to be witnesses all across the world, no matter where we are.

We are not alone. We have a partner in fulfilling our lives agenda to be his witnesses. We are not alone in this work. He is already at work. He is at work in unbelievers around us. He is at work in the believer as a witness. He is at work in the church and He beckons us to join him, to cooperate with him.

We cannot save souls by our own intellectual or persuasive powers. This message itself is redundant without this lesson.

- It is the Father who is seeking ‘worshippers’ in spirit and in truth.
- It is the Spirit of God who is convicting men of sin and of righteousness.
- It is the Spirit of God only who can bring ‘revelation’, ‘conviction’ and ‘new birth’. (I Cor 12:3, Jn 3:3,5)

Evangelising is cooperating, getting in step with the Spirit’s working.

We have to understand that God has chosen human agency. So he chooses to work through us. He wants to. He is willing to.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

1. **He is a person** – Rom 8:16, Jn 14:26, 15:26, 16:7-8. He comforts, guides, strengthens, helps, witnesses. He can be grieved, hurt and disobeyed.
2. **He is God** – Third person in the Trinity (Gen 1:1ff; 2 Cor 3:17; Mt 28:19; 1 Pet 1:2-11; 1 Cor 2:10-12)

The Holy Spirit is God, through whom we know God, believe in God and love God.

3. **Jesus’ Other self** - “Paracletos”

“He would be to the disciples in the unseen realm of reality exactly what Jesus had been to them in the visible realm. (Coleman)

WHAT IS HIS WORK?

In Unbelievers –

1. Helps people to understand Truth through ‘revelation’. Jn 14:26, 15:26
2. Convicts people of their sins. Jn 16:8, Acts 2:37
3. Brings them to repentance. Acts 2:36-38
4. Births faith that people might believe in Jesus Christ. 1 Cor 12:3
5. Gives new birth. Jn 3:3-5; Gal 4:19; Titus 3:5
6. Brings an awareness of God’s great love. Rom 6:16
7. Gives assurance of salvation and acceptance by God. Rom 8:16

(The Holy Spirit doesn’t always work in the same order).

In the evangelist (believer) –

1. Fills our hearts with love for the lost. Gives us a fullness of the love of God.
2. Motivates, pressures and anoints the believer to witness and proclaim Christ affectively. Acts 1:8
3. Empowers us to operate His Gifts – e.g. teach, preach, encourage, discern, guide etc.
4. Gives us boldness and courage to witness. Acts 2:29ff, Acts 1:8

In the Church –

1. **RENEWAL** – is in the individual believer. Ps 51:7-10. Leaders must lead in personal revival.
2. **REVIVAL** – is in the local church or churches. Acts 2, Acts 4:31-35. The spirit of God breathes a fresh air through a local church or a local area of churches that have become lukewarm or just before he is about to use them for some thing specific.
3. **AWAKENING** – is still wider – affecting believers, churches and the community and sometimes spreading through an entire country.

We need to work with the Holy Spirit in the local church.

- ❑ Revive the Worship – for he is the Spirit of Worship. Jn 4:24, Rom 12:1ff
- ❑ Revive the Fellowship – for he is the Spirit of love. Rom 5:5; 2 Cor 13:14; Acts 2:42; 4:32-35
- ❑ Revive the Preaching of the word – for he is the Spirit of Truth. Heb4, Eph 6:17
- ❑ Revive the Holiness of the Church – for he is the HOLY Spirit. Rom 8:9a, 10:12-13, I Pet 1:14-19
- ❑ Revive the Evangelistic Work of the church – for he is the Spirit of Witness. Acts 1:8, Acts 8:1ff, Acts 13

We must work for Revival but Pray for an Awakening