

CatClub: Question 37



1. Recap. Last week we learnt that the Holy Spirit is God and has no beginning or end - in the same way as God the Father and God the Son have no beginning or end. We also read that all Christians are given the gift of the Holy Spirit to be with them and help them in living a life that is pleasing to God the Father.

Q37 now asks: How does the Holy Spirit help us? **Answer: The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, comforts us, guides us, gives us spiritual gifts and the desire to obey God; and he enables us to pray and to understand God's Word (=the Bible).**

2. Investigation

Please look up:

(a) (In the New Testament) John chapter 16, verses 7-8. **The Holy Spirit tells us that we are sinners** in need of forgiveness.

(b) (In the New Testament) John chapter 14, verse 26. **The Holy Spirit is our helper and adviser** so that we make God-honouring decisions in life and learn how to obey God's Commandments.

(c) (In the New Testament) 1 Corinthians chapter 12, verses 7-11. **The Holy Spirit gives us special spiritual gifts/talents** that we otherwise wouldn't have. Some of these gifts, such as the ability to heal the sick, the ability to work miracles or the ability to speak foreign languages that we haven't learnt (that's what 'tongues' mean), were given in the New Testament period 2,000 years ago, but aren't given today.

(d) (In the New Testament) Romans chapter 8, verses 26-27. **The Holy Spirit helps us to pray** as we naturally find it difficult to do this. We learn more about prayer next week!

(e) (In the New Testament) John chapter 16, verses 13-15. **The Holy Spirit leads us into the truth**, which is found throughout the Bible.

>>>Next week's question: What is prayer?

This week's songs:

'What sin?'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGBtCfiSL5o&list=RDhGBtCfiSL5o&start_radio=1&t=0

'Reformation Song'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osKjBaYwq5k&list=RDS-d1uUPrKns&index=16>

John 16:7-8

⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgement...

John 14:26

²⁶ 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.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Romans 8:26-27

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

John 16:13-15

¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.