

So What About The Holy Spirit?

Part 3: How do we get the Holy Spirit?

John 3:1-17 - [watch online](#)

Summary:

There is something broken in humanity. From the beginning, Christians have seen the answer in the Trinity of God... and being born again by the Holy Spirit to be able to become who we were originally created to be.

Main Points:

[00:44] Humanity seems utterly and hopelessly broken.

[02:16] Humanity was created to join and enjoy the eternal dance of God.

[02:52] The only way to fix humanity is for humans to be reborn by the Holy Spirit.

[06:44] Being born again has nothing to do with being religious.

[09:09] To experience the life of God we need a new source of life.

[10:01] We cannot understand our way to true rebirth.

[11:59] Humanity doesn't need a plan. We need a Savior.

[16:04] Somehow the Holy Spirit turns our hearing into believing and our believing into rebirth.

[20:56] All we have to do is say yes and the Holy Spirit begins the rest.

[18:52] A Prayer:

Despite my doubts, I trust you, Jesus, to save me. To bring me back to the relationship I was created for. HS come into my life and make me new.

[19:36] This Week's Goal:

Read: Titus 3:3-7

Pray: Show me my steps in your eternal dance.

[21:18] Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out, bothered, challenged, or confused you in this week's message?
2. When Jon said, "Being born again has nothing to do with being religious," what do you think he meant? Do you agree or disagree?
3. Read Titus 3:3-7. What "action verbs" catch your attention?
4. What would joining and enjoying the eternal dance of Triune God have looked like in your day today? What could it look like tomorrow?
5. How can your group pray for you?

Transcript:

IN: People are the worst aren't they? Inconsiderate. Careless. In their own worlds. Out for themselves.

But then, we realize that we are people. That others out there think/feel the same way about us...

There's obviously something wrong with humanity. So is there an alternative?

Jesus said there was. So, let's talk about it ...together.

WE: Humanity seems utterly and hopelessly broken.

And we do so many things to fix this brokenness.

- Self-help books
- Podcasts
- Education
- Relationships

Nothing wrong with... but always need more... never seem to fully get us there...

From beginning, Xians have seen the solution in God... What we call the Trinity.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit. One God in 3 persons. All equally and fully God...together in perfect love/relationship

And what we see in the BW's is this Triune God has eternally lived in a perfect harmonious dance

- There has never been a moment where God was alone, lacking, incomplete.
- All three persons making one God enjoying a shared creative, good, beautiful full life of love.

Then this triune God creates the world for a new type of being... humans. WHY?

- To have something to rule over?
- To be God over? Already God.
- B/c he was lacking/lonely? No.
- **Humanity was created to join and enjoy the eternal dance of God.**

But we broke that connection by trying to find joy/meaning outside of this dance...and have been trying to fix ourselves/get back to our place in the dance ever since.

But can we? Is it possible?

Yes... Need a new start... a new start that can only come from God... can only come from the personal, life-giving presence of God... the HS.

The only way to fix humanity is for humans to be reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Ok but how?!?!?

- How does someone get the HS?
- How does this whole thing start?

In one of most famous stories of Jesus' life he explains it all...

Turns water into wine. He chases the money changers out of the temple...

Get's the attention of Jewish religious leaders... they send a representative to talk to Jesus... see what he's all about...

GOD: John 3:1

- One of most educated men of the time. All of Torah memorized, with interpretations
- Member of Sanhedrin... ruling council.
- Respected... When he speaks people listen.
- He was the picture that every mother hoped their son would live up to.

V. 2

- Kind of buttering Jesus up.
- "We can't acknowledge you publicly yet...but here's what some of us are whispering"
- Kind of trying to do some backroom political maneuvering
- "You have this following. I think we can help each other out. Let's play ball together here..."
- Jesus isn't interested in their politics...
- Completely ignores

V. 3

- "Can't see KoG unless born again."
- "Can't reenter the dance... Living in harmony with true King, being who created to be... fully human.... Unless, born again"
- Born again = also means from above... one word, two meanings... like cool/sick
- Jesus probably chose word on purpose b/c of both meanings.

Now whatever being born again from above means... it obviously isn't about becoming more religious...

- Nobody more religious than Nic.
- Not a bad guy... had a passion for knowing about God... OT memorized. Taught it to others... but he didn't have what was needed to rejoin dance.

Jesus: Nic you need a *new beginning*... not trying harder/knowing more... you need a new source of life from above...

Being born again has nothing to do with being religious.

Nic decides to take word as "again"...

V. 4 Sarcastic- "Listen here, sonny- this is nonsense. What are you talking about?"

- Could only think in physical terms... if you were a Jew who followed the Law of Moses then you were part of God's people...

Jesus: No, I'm talking about something deeper...

V. 5-6 Water and Spirit. Physical birth and spiritual birth. Need both.

But also alluding to the promises God had given 100s yrs earlier... describing when he would come and restore our dance... using the scriptures Nic was so dedicated to, to explain to him in his own way...

Need to be reborn with new water and spirit...

- **Isaiah 44:3-4**

- As new fresh water brings new life to the grass... the pouring out of the Spirit will bring new life to God's people.

- **Ezekiel 36:25-27**

- Stony heart needs new life... Spirit.

To experience the life of God we need a new source of life.

Nic prob thinking, like many of us... But HOW does it happen? Give me the steps!

V. 7-8 Wind- *Pneuma*

It is real. It actually happens but... HOW is a mystery...

We cannot understand our way to true rebirth.

You hear the wind/you see/feel its effects... but you can't weigh it, you can't measure it, control it...

Nic is not a fan of mystery... **V. 9** Huh?

V. 10 "Look man, you are a respected teacher... this is basic, day of the Lord/Ruach of God stuff that is throughout your scriptures..."

I've tried to help you understand... but honestly what you need isn't MORE understanding..."

V. 11-13 You call me teacher? But I'm more than you think... I'm not here to just teach you about God or give you more understanding...

All that knowledge you've spent your life collecting hasn't changed your heart... Hasn't restored you to God.

You don't need more understanding /religion... you need a ***new life from above...***

- Your heart is dead.
- Sin has paralyzed it. It doesn't work properly. It can't love/trust/enjoy God the way it was designed to
- You've been separated from the dance and can't get back in...

What you need is a Savior... **Humanity doesn't need a plan. We need a Savior.**

Tries using Nic previous knowledge again...

V. 14-15 this is the Moses/serpent story. Look at snake on the pole, and believe and be healed.

Make logical sense? No, not really.

“This is going to be the same... I will be lifted up (When was Jesus lifted up for everyone to look at?)... and all who look and believe/TRUST will be saved/reborn.”

Will you be able to chart it out? No... but that’s because it's not a formula... it's a dance... it's a relationship... it’s Love...

V. 16-17 I’m here Nic... B/c God loves you so much. I have come to make it possible for you to rejoin the dance you were created for...

You just have to choose to believe.

- Despite your doubts... despite your cynicism...
- Take however much trust you have and put it *not* in what *you do*... but put it in **me**.
- And the HS will come like the wind... you will see and feel its effects as he begins remaking you into a true human from the inside out.

So simple it seems ludicrous

Question: How were you born the first time...?

You might understand some of the scientific mechanics of where babies come from and form but you can’t explain where *your actual life* came from...and you had nothing to do with getting born, did you?

All you can do is (Tim Mackie) recognize and accept that someone labored/worked on your behalf to bring you life

- All you can do is look at your mother and say “Thank you” for what you went through FOR ME.

It is the same with being born again from above... **all that is left for us to do is look at God and say thank you and start living the new life you have been given .**

Paul explains this in **Titus 3:3-7**.

Somehow the Holy Spirit turns our hearing into believing, and our believing into rebirth.

Someone hears this message of Jesus... that God loves you so much that he came to live and die for you.

Somehow the HS works with your willingness to believe... and somehow takes that belief/trust and washes you... gives you Jesus’ perfect humanity and comes and lives inside of you... empowering, guiding, comforting us.

YOU: Humanity is broken. Dead.

You’ve experienced it.

More knowledge won’t fix it.

More laws won’t fix it.

Better gov won’t fix it.

More religion won’t fix it.

We try really hard to be great people... do our best to follow the Sermon on the MT

Do everything we can to clean ourselves up...

We can go through the motions of xianity and still not be reborn/experience life in the eternal dance of God.

All we will do is end up exhausted and overwhelmed by guilt.

We don't need more strategies/knowledge/systems/methods/books. We need a Savior. We need to be reborn from above.

When we choose to accept that Jesus is that Savior and say thank you... the Holy Spirit takes that bit of faith and washes us from who we were... sins/trying to find life apart from God... and comes and lives in us... giving us new life now and forever.

Bringing us into the dance we were created to enjoy.

And from what I've seen, just as wind affects every tree differently... The rebirth of the HS is different for everyone...

- For some it's a dramatic gust of hurricane change
- For others it's a steady breeze of continual growth

But what they have in common is new life... they have been changed from the inside out...

Have you been reborn?

Moment in life where chosen to say... **Despite my doubts, I trust you Jesus , to save me, to bring me back to the relationship I was created for. Holy Spirit come into my life and make me new.**

If not, and you are ready... now is your time. If you feel that tug/that WANT TO... that is the HS fluttering/awakening/softening your heart... if you want to all you have to is say yes and the HS will do the rest.

Let the HS take what you've heard, turn it into belief and use that belief to make you new.

Whether 1st time or maybe you have been living a reborn life, let's dwell on this reality this week...

Read: Titus 3:3-7

Pray: Show me my steps in your eternal dance.

WE: When your car's engine block is cracked... do you just drive harder. Give it more gas. More oil. Paint car? New tires? Drive it more? Memorize owners manual?

No... you need a new engine.

We can do all the self help we want but it will not change who we truly are.

Mechanic would say the car needs a new engine... Jesus says you need a new source of life.

The only thing that can do that is being born again from above by the HS... being given a new heart.

This rebirth gives us a whole new life... where we can enjoy the eternal perfect dance of God daily...right now.

Get on the dance floor. Let the HS lead and try some new steps.

Maybe you're hearing his invitation... felt his tugging ... heard his whisper... "May I have this dance?"

It's might be time to say 'yes'

All we have to do is say yes and the Holy Spirit begins the rest.