

Poole Christian Fellowship

www.poolechristianfellowship.org

THE BULLETIN

October 2009

The Holy Spirit and You—by John MacDiarmid

We have just started our Thursday evening series entitled "The Holy Spirit and You". This continues in October with two further sessions. On October 1st we will consider how the Holy Spirit speaks to us, and on 15th October we will be discussing the whole subject of the new birth. Each session will consist of a talk on the subject in question, a time for questions, a break for refreshments and a time for discussion and application. The series continues throughout the rest of the year and into 2010.

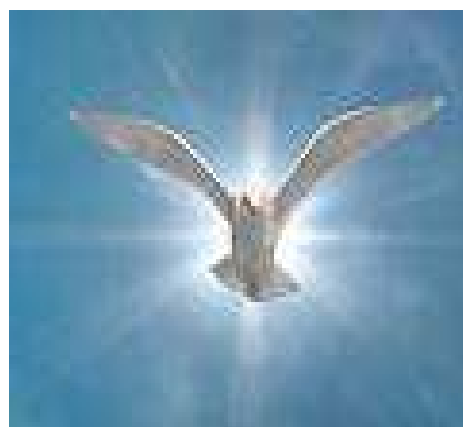
However all this this gives rise to a very obvious question: Why a series on the Holy Spirit? You may come from a church background where the Holy Spirit was hardly mentioned. On the other hand you may come from a background where it is ALL that was mentioned! One way or another the time has come to clearly state and define what we believe about the activity of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our church today.

So, we will be hitting all the controversial subjects head on and moving forward together as a church into experiencing all that God has for us. You may be interested to know that the Spirit of God is mentioned 326 times in the Bible. Of those references 243 are in the New Testament - which makes up only 20% of the Bible. And the only inspired record of church history that we have - the Acts of the Apostles - mentions the Holy Spirit no less than 55 times. That is 17% of all the references to the Holy Spirit in the bible come in a book which only takes up about 5% of the total size of the Bible.

What is the significance of this? The fact is that we are in ***the age of the Spirit***. We live in an era of history where the most significant presence on the earth is the presence of the Holy Spirit in the church of God and in each believer. What we have to do it to live in the good of it.

God promised through his prophet Joel:

"I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.
Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.
I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.
The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.
And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; "



These words were quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost to explain what was happening. Today we live in the same age - the age of the Spirit. Are we open to the possibilities? That is what this series is about.

Come and be a part of it.

New Members

PCF is delighted to welcome Mario and Barbie Lambros into church membership.

Dan Short is also now a much appreciated member of PCF.

We look forward to getting to know each of them more and working with them in the furtherance of the Gospel.

Noticeboards

The two front of building noticeboards have been re-organised into Church Notices and Overseas Mission Notices. Hopefully, this will encourage interest in both church and mission related activities.

If you have anything you would like put on the boards, please pass to Linda Rose

Guest Speakers

We are pleased to welcome two guest speakers during the month of October.

On 4th October **Martin Cooper** will be with us to speak at our morning celebration. Martin has spent most of his ministry with the Navigators, most recently as executive director. His has been with PCF on two previous occasions a number of years ago. His connection with John MacDiarmid goes back to John's student days on Southampton in the late 1970's

Andrew Parfitt makes a welcome return on the weekend of 10/11 October. he is the guest speaker at our new Forest Conference for our leaders on Saturday 10th, and will be back with us on the morning of Sunday 11th to speak at our morning celebration

Church Members' Meeting

On Tuesday 20th October we will be having a church member's meeting - the first for some time. In it we will be dealing with some necessary business matters, and sharing future plans.

As always with church members' meetings we encourage all members to make themselves available for this evening, and respectfully remind our "honoured guests" - those who are not members of PCF - that this particular meeting is for members only.

Whilst writing about membership, we will be running a further membership programme in November for those who wish to find out more about membership of Poole Christian Fellowship.

John MacDiarmid

Baptism

We are looking forward to baptising some friends during the month of November. We currently have two people who have asked to be baptised. If you are a believer and have not yet been baptised - here is your chance!

And now what are you waiting for?

Get up, be **baptized... (Acts 22 v 16)**

John MacDiarmid



"In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs." Heb. 1: 1-4 (NIV)

Testimony from Africa—Timo, in Darfur

You wouldn't ever guess that he is someone called by God to reach his own people. He looks like any other young Sudanese - eating like all the others, moving around on transport like all the others, even wearing the traditional Muslin "jalabiyya" like most Muslims in Darfur. But Timo is a light in the darkness. He brings Living Water to people in a dry and weary land. He is reaching out to those in this war-torn area.

The refugee camps spread over miles around the capital city of Darfur. Most days, Timo wakes early and prepares something to eat with his house-mate Abdo. He pulls the long white "jalabiyya" over his head and places the small white "tagiyya" on his head. He walks to the bus station with many others, waits a long time for the right bus, and then pays a few precious coins for his ride to the edge of town. The bus unloads at the guarded gate of the refugee camp. People wander in and out, many of them being stopped for questioning or to be searched. If Timo were white, he would have a hard time clearing security. If he announced he was bringing the Gospel message inside the camp walls, he would most certainly not be allowed in. But Timo blends right in...and no one can see the Bibles he is carrying underneath the loose outer garment.

He has come to disciple the believers in the camp. He makes this journey as often as he can to meet together with new believers who would have no other way to learn the word of God. Because of this humble, obedient Sudanese servant names Timo... light is being spread amongst the lost in Darfur.

Taken from "30 Days 2009 of Prayer for the Muslim World - Open Doors

An Army of Ordinary People!

As we are often reminded, PCF coffee and tea is like no other! Our volunteers are special—they lace each mug and biscuit with love! (That's what makes the difference you know.)

Bringing it down to earth though, if folk do not do what they do in the kitchen, week after week, it just won't happen. So on your behalf—many thanks to all of them—they are the salt of the earth!

We have a rota and it generally works like clockwork. (But even the salt of the earth can make mistakes and forget—please be forgiving when we do).



There is always room for more of you to join us. We commit to about every 6 weeks, being there a little early, and staying a little later. To bringing milk—and if you're really blessed some nice biscuits,, get to know where everything is in the kitchen, and keep it spanking clean. You need no special qualifications or special skills—you simply learn on the job!

You forgo chatting after the service but we have good kitchen fellowship instead. It's a great way to get to know folk, especially if you are new to us.

Having another commitment on a Sunday is no bar to working with us either—we have 3 people on each rota so that we can spread the load and cover each other's commitments and weeks away. And it's not just for ladies! So, how about it? We look forward to having you with us soon. Speak to Stephanie Lafferty to find out more.

PCF Contacts

<p>Elders</p> <p>David Foster John MacDiarmid Nick May Nigel Green Richard Miles</p>		<p>Website Webmaster Ben Lamb</p>	
<p>07906756791 (Serves the church full time)</p>		<p>Youth Gez Jones</p>	
<p>Church Administrator Linda Rose</p>		<p>Daytime Bible Study Jean Edwards</p>	
<p>01202 660542</p>		<p>Housegroups</p> <p>Central East North West</p>	
<p>Sunday School Helen MacDiarmid</p>		<p>Jon & Lynne White Duncan & Helen Williams Nick & Margaret May Jo W & Linda Rose</p>	
<p>Coffee Morning Margaret May Stephanie Lafferty</p>		<p>Please see one of the housegroup leaders or an elder if you would like to attend</p>	
<p>Musicians Caleb Green Tim Stone</p>			

- Events Diary for October -

Thursday 1st	8.00pm	"The Holy Spirit and You" - "The Holy Spirit - Bringing God's Word to you"
Sunday 4th	10.10am 10.30am 7.00pm	Prayer Celebration led by:- John MacDiarmid Speaker:- Martin Cooper (see page 2) Prayer and Praise
Monday 5th	7.00pm	Youth Group
Tuesday 6th	10.30am 8.00pm	"Open Door" Housegroups
Wednesday 7th	10.00am	"Discipleship Explored" - "Standing Together in Christ"
Saturday 10th		Leaders Conference at The Forest Park Hotel, Brockenhurst Andrew Parfitt speaking
Sunday 11th	10.10am 10.30am	Prayer Celebration led by:- John MacDiarmid Speaker:- Andrew Parfitt
Monday 12th	7.00pm	Youth Group
Tuesday 13th	10.30am 8.00pm	"Open Door" Church Together for Prayer
Wednesday 14th	10.00am	Daytime Bible Study—Gospel of John
Thursday 15th	8.00pm	"The Holy Spirit and You" - "The Holy Spirit—Giving you New Birth"
Sunday 18th	10.10am 10.30am	Prayer Celebration led by:- Nick May Speaker:- John MacDiarmid Today we will be praying for Caitlin Abraham, thanking God for her, dedicating her to the Lord and praying for her parents, Joe and Malini
Monday 19th	7.00pm	Youth Group
Tuesday 20th	10.30am 8.00pm	"Open Door" Church Member's Meeting
Wednesday 21st	10.00am	"Discipleship Explored" - "Standing Together in Christ"
Sunday 25th	9.30am 10.10am 10.30am	Meeting at Dorset House Prayer Celebration led by:- Richard Miles We will be breaking bread—led by Nick May "9-5" Duncan Williams
Tuesday 27th	10.30am 8.00pm	"Open Door" Church Together for Prayer
Wednesday 28th	10.00am	Daytime Bible Study—Gospel of John