

SCRIPTURE SUMMER SCHOOL
THE FIRE OF THE SPIRIT
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Exploring St Paul
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PRESENTATION 1

- **Contexts**
- Experience (1 Thess and Gal 5)
- Experience (Gal 5)
- Belonging (1 Cor 12)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)

Sequence

- Hungers of the heart
- Coping in the culture
- The heart of the Good News
- The Table of the Faith
- What *is* the Spirit saying to the churches?
- “Hymns Ancient and Modern”
- And so...

Hungers of the heart

- Current “handing on” not working
- Culture of distraction (Schluß mit Lustig)
- But: great values in young people
- Mindfulness
- The arts seem to be flourishing
- Those still active are even more active

Coping in the culture

- Denial
- Nostalgia (restorationism)
- Critical embrace

The heart of the Good News

- Various proposals...
- Good question to ask “the cultured despisers”
- What do you think?

- God
- Jesus
- The Holy Spirit

- Community
- Centre:
 - The great events that brought us new life in Christ
 - The continued gift and presence of the Holy Spirit
- Great theologians of this: Paul, John, Luke Hebrews

The Table of the Faith

- Spirituality
- Belonging
- Understanding
- Action

- Jesus' practice of table fellowship
 - The kosher system
 - The implications
- Table as product (briefly!)
- Table as metaphor

- The Irish church: swot analysis
 - Leadership?
 - Discipleship?
- Community?

What is the Spirit saying?

- Pope Francis
- No to retreat from "the world"
- Reconfigure the vision of the kingdom
- Live the vision, at personal cost
- The epoch of the Spirit is upon us

Hymns ancient and modern

- Classically: Henri Le Saux, Bede Griffiths, John Main etc.
- Programmatically: Pierre Hegie, José Pagola

- Apologetically: Francis Spufford, John Cottingham, Rupert Shortt

And so...

- Contexts
- Experience (1 Thess and Gal 5)
- Experience (Gal 5)
- Belonging (1 Cor 12)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)

- How “old” is the church?
- At the end of 2,000 years?
- At the start of 10,000 years?
- Ireland: closer the Gospel perhaps

Conversation

PRESENTATION 2: EXPERIENCE AS FOUNDATIONAL

- Contexts
- **Experience (1 Thess and Gal 5)**
- Experience (Gal 5)
- Belonging (1 Cor 12)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)

Sequence

- 1 Thessalonians
- Context / outline
- Teaching on the Spirit
- Galatians
- Context / outline
- Teaching on the Spirit (to be continued)

1 Thessalonians

- Earliest Christian document
- Still, based on extensive missionary experiences
- Crisis and challenge to Paul

<i>Verses</i>	<i>Words</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Speech</i>
1:1	Greeting	Prescript	
1:2-10	Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving	Introduction (<i>exordium</i>) (Thesis: 1:9-10)
2:1- 3:13	Relationships	Body	Proof 1 (<i>probatio</i>)
4:1-12	Holiness		Proof 2 (<i>probatio</i>)
4:13- 5:11	Apocalyptic		Proof 3 (<i>probatio</i>)
5:12- 27	Exhortation	Conclusion	Conclusion (<i>peroratio</i>)
5:28	Greeting	Postscript	

Teaching

1 Thess 1:4 We know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 in that our gospel did not come to you merely in words, but in power and in the **Holy Spirit** and with deep conviction (surely you recall the character we displayed when we came among you to help you).

1 Thess 1:6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, when you received the message with joy that comes from the **Holy Spirit**, despite great affliction.

1 Thess 4:8 Consequently the one who rejects this is not rejecting human authority but God, who gives his **Holy Spirit** to you.

19 Do not extinguish the **Spirit**. 20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt. 21 But examine all things; hold fast to what is good.

1 Thess 5:23 Now may the God of peace himself make you completely holy and may your **spirit** and soul and body be kept entirely blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians

- Galatians and Romans: the two great letters
- Complex, with different levels of discussion: narrative, biographical, appeal to experience, technical argument and so forth.
- Context: Galatia mission and intruders

<i>Verses</i>	<i>Words</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Speech</i>
1:1-5	Greeting	Prescript	
1:6-10	Attack on the intruders		Introduction (exordium)

1:11-12	Topic		Thesis
1:13-2:21	History	Body	Proof 1
3:1-4:7	Covenant fulfilment		Proof 2
4:8-5:12	Law v. freedom		Proof 3
5:13-6:10	Freedom in the Spirit		Proof 4
6:11-17	Boasting in the cross	Conclusion	Peroration
6:18	Greeting	Postscript	

The word “Spirit” in Galatians

spirit (2)

- Gal 6:1 restore such a person in a **spirit** of gentleness.
 Gal 6:18 of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your **spirit**,

Spirit (16)

- Gal 3:2 Did you receive the **Spirit** by doing the works of
 Gal 3:3 Although you began with the **Spirit**, are you now
 Gal 3:5 God then give you the **Spirit** and work miracles
 Gal 3:14 could receive the promise of the **Spirit** by faith.
 Gal 4:6 God sent the **Spirit** of his Son into our hearts
 Gal 4:29 persecuted the one born according to the **Spirit**,
 Gal 5:5 For through the **Spirit**, by faith, we wait
 Gal 5:16 live by the **Spirit** and you will not carry out the
 Gal 5:17 the flesh has desires that are opposed to the **Spirit**,
 the **Spirit** has desires that are opposed to
 Gal 5:18 But if you are led by the **Spirit**, you are not under
 Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the **Spirit** is love, joy, peace
 Gal 5:25 If we live by the **Spirit**, let us also behave in let us
 also behave in accordance with the **Spirit**.

Gal 6:8 one who sows to the **Spirit** will reap eternal life to the **Spirit** will reap eternal life from the **Spirit**.

Teaching

- God's faithfulness
- Centrality of the Cross
- Priority of the Spirit

- Faithfulness of God through the faithfulness of Jesus
- Faith of the believer built on the faithfulness of Jesus
- Given to each believer through the Holy Spirit
- We look at the key passages in 3 and 4

Gal 3:1 You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you? Before your eyes Jesus Christ was vividly portrayed as crucified! 2 The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the **Spirit** by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? 3 Are you so foolish? Although you began with the **Spirit**, are you now trying to finish by human effort? 4 Have you suffered so many things for nothing?—if indeed it was for nothing. 5 Does God then give you the **Spirit** and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law or by your believing what you heard?

Gal 4:1 Now I mean that the heir, as long as he is a minor, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything. 2 But he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. 3 So also we, when we were minors, were enslaved under the basic forces of the world. 4 But when the appropriate time had come, God sent out his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we may be adopted as sons with full rights. 6 And because you are sons, God sent the **Spirit** of his Son into our hearts, who calls "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if you are a son, then you are also an heir through God.

Rom 5:1 Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by **faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the **hope** of God's glory. 3 Not only this, but we also rejoice in sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance, character, and character, hope. 5 And hope does not disappoint, because the **love** of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

- Trust your experience
- The intruders added nothing
- Notice: faith and the Spirit were fully active *before* the ritual law was imposed
- Interiorised by the Holy Spirit in each believer
- Holy Spirit as power and joy
- Holy Spirit as gift
- Holy Spirit experienced through *the* gifts, which are not to be extinguished
- Holy Spirit independent of the Law and its regulations
- Poured into the heart of all believers
- Registered in prayer: Abba, father

And so...

- Does this teaching speak to me?
- Does this teaching speak to us as a community of faith?

Conversation

PRESENTATION 3: THE SPIRIT AND HOW WE LIVE

- Contexts
- Experience (1 Thess and Gal 5)
- **Experience (Gal 5)**
- Belonging (1 Cor 12)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)

Sequence

- Context and layout
- Gal 5:1-12
- Gal 5:13-26
- Gal 6:1-10
- And so...
- Conversation

Context and layout

<i>Verses</i>	<i>Words</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Speech</i>
1:1-5	Greeting	Prescript	
1:6-10	Attack on the intruders		Introduction (exordium)
1:11-12	Topic		Thesis
1:13-2:21	History	Body	Proof 1
3:1-4:7	Covenant fulfilment		Proof 2
4:8-5:12	Law v. freedom		Proof 3
5:13-6:10	Freedom in the Spirit		Proof 4
6:11-17	Boasting in the cross	Conclusion	Peroration

6:18 | Greeting | Postscript |

Gal 5:1-12

Gal 5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not be subject again to the yoke of slavery. 2 Listen! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you at all! 3 And I testify again to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. 4 You who are trying to be declared righteous by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace! 5 For through the **Spirit**, by faith, we wait expectantly for the hope of righteousness. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision carries any weight — the only thing that matters is faith working through love.

Gal 5:7 You were running well; who prevented you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion does not come from the one who calls you! 9 A little yeast makes the whole batch of dough rise! 10 I am confident in the Lord that you will accept no other view. But the one who is confusing you will pay the penalty, whoever he may be. 11 Now, brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offence of the cross has been removed. 12 I wish those agitators would go so far as to castrate themselves!

Gal 5:13-26

Gal 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity to indulge your flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law can be summed up in a single commandment, namely, “You must love your neighbour as yourself.” 15 However, if you continually bite and devour one another, beware that you are not consumed by one another. 16 But I say, live by the **Spirit** and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh has desires that are opposed to the **Spirit**, and the **Spirit** has desires that are

opposed to the flesh, for these are in opposition to each other, so that you cannot do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the **Spirit**, you are not under the law.

Compare

Rom 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh have their outlook shaped by the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the **Spirit** have their outlook shaped by the things of the **Spirit**. 6 For the outlook of the flesh is death, but the outlook of the **Spirit** is life and peace, 7 because the outlook of the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to the law of God, nor is it able to do so. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the **Spirit**, if indeed the **Spirit** of God lives in you. Now if anyone does not have the **Spirit** of Christ, this person does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, but the **Spirit** is your life because of righteousness. 11 Moreover if the **Spirit** of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his **Spirit** who lives in you.

Gal 5:13-26

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, depravity, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostilities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, murder, drunkenness, carousing, and similar things. I am warning you, as I had warned you before: Those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God!

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the **Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the **Spirit**, let us also behave in accordance with the **Spirit**. 26 Let us not become

conceited, provoking one another, being jealous of one another.

Gal 6:1-10

Gal 6:1 Brothers and sisters, if a person is discovered in some sin, you who are spiritual restore such a person in a spirit of gentleness. Pay close attention to yourselves, so that you are not tempted too. 2 Carry one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 Let each one examine his own work. Then he can take pride in himself and not compare himself with someone else. 5 For each one will carry his own load.

Gal 6:6 Now the one who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with the one who teaches it. 7 Do not be deceived. God will not be made a fool. For a person will reap what he sows, 8 because the person who sows to his own flesh will reap corruption from the flesh, but the one who sows to the **Spirit** will reap eternal life from the **Spirit**. 9 So we must not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who belong to the family of faith.

Gal 6:11 See what big letters I make as I write to you with my own hand!

Gal 6:12 Those who want to make a good showing in external matters are trying to force you to be circumcised. They do so only to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 For those who are circumcised do not obey the law themselves, but they want you to be circumcised so that they can boast about your flesh. 14 But may I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that matters is a new creation! 16 And all who

will behave in accordance with this rule, peace and mercy be on them, and on the Israel of God.

Gal 6:17 From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body. 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

And so...

- The significance of experience, looking back and looking forward
- Spirit and Law
- Spirit and morals
- Spirit and community

Conversation

PRESENTATION 4: THE SPIRIT AND BELONGING TO THE COMMUNITY

- Contexts
- Experience (1 Thess and Gal 5)
- Experience (Gal 5)
- **Belonging (1 Cor 12)**
- Spirituality (Rom 8)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)

Sequence

- Why church at all?
- The *ekklesia* in the Pauline vision
- 1 Corinthians 12
- Synoptic view of 1 Cor 12-14
- Romans 12
- And so...
- Conversation

Why church at all?

- Believing without belonging
- Belonging without believing (!)
- “No man is an island...”
- Small belonging
- Big belonging

Ekklesia

- From Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, to the **assembly** of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (1Thessalonians 1:1)
- From Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Sosthenes, our brother, to the **assembly** of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, and called to be saints, with all those in every place who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours (1Corinthians 1:1–3)

1 Corinthians 12-14

- This section forms a tight unit
- The “shape” of the unit is significant
- Paul uses a concentric pattern ABA*
- Thus: A (=12); B (=13); A* (=14)

1Cor 12-14

A (chapter 12)		Diversity	(problem)
	B (chapter 13)	Love	(principle)
A* (chapter 14)		Order	(application)

1Cor 12

Introduction (12:1-2)		
a. (12:4-11)		Charisms, prophecies, tongues
	b. 12:12-26	Body
a* (12:27-31)		Charisms, prophecies, tongues

1Cor 13

c. (13:1-3)		Charisms, prophecy, tongues v. love
	d. (13:4-7)	Love
c* (13:8-12)		Charisms, prophecy, tongues v. love

1Cor 14

e. (14:1-5)		Prophecy v. tongues and building up
	f. (14:6-11)	Unintelligible sounds
e* (14:13-19.20-25)		prophecy v. tongues building up inside and outside.

Synoptic view of 1 Cor 12-14

<i>Introduction (12:1-5)</i>		
A 12	a. (12:4-11)	Charisms, prophecies tongues
	b. (12:12-26)	Body
	a* (12:27-31)	Charisms, prophecies tongues
B 13	c. (13:1-5)	<i>Charisms, prophecy, tongues v. love</i>
	d. (13:4-7)	<i>Love</i>
	c* (13:8-12)	<i>prophecy, tongues, knowledge v. love</i>
A* 14	e. (14:1-5)	prophecy v. tongues and building up
	f. (13:6-11)	Unintelligible sounds
	e* (14:13-19.20-25)	prophecy v. tongues building up inside and outside.
<i>Conclusion (14:26-40)</i>		

1 Cor 12:1-3

1 Cor 12:1 With regard to spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. 2 You know that when you were pagans you were often led astray by speechless idols, however you were led. 3 So I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor 12:4-11

1 Cor 12:4 Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are different ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are different results, but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. 7 To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the benefit of all. 8 For one person is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, and another the message of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another performance of miracles, to another prophecy, and to another discernment of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 It is one and the same Spirit, distributing as he decides to each person, who produces all these things.

1 Cor 12:12-13

1 Cor 12:12 For just as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body — though many — are one body, so too is Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. Whether Jews or Greeks or slaves or free, we were all made to drink of the one Spirit.

1 Cor 12:14-18

14 For in fact the body is not a single member, but many. 15 If the foot says, “Since I am not a hand, I am not part of the body,” it does not lose its membership in the body because of that. 16 And if the ear says, “Since I am not an eye, I am not part of the body,” it does not lose its membership in the body because of that. 17 If the whole body were an eye, what part would do the hearing? If the whole were an ear, what part would exercise the sense of smell? 18 But as a matter of fact, God has placed each of the members in the body just as he decided.

1 Cor 12:19-26

9 If they were all the same member, where would the body be? 20 So now there are many members, but one body. 21

The eye cannot say to the hand, “I do not need you,” nor in turn can the head say to the foot, “I do not need you.” 22 On the contrary, those members that seem to be weaker are essential, 23 and those members we consider less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our unpresentable members are clothed with dignity, 24 but our presentable members do not need this. Instead, God has blended together the body, giving greater honour to the lesser member, 25 so that there may be no division in the body, but the members may have mutual concern for one another. 26 If one member suffers, everyone suffers with it. If a member is honoured, all rejoice with it.

1 Cor 12:27-31

1 Cor 12:27 Now you are Christ’s body, and each of you is a member of it. 28 And God has placed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, gifts of healing, helps, gifts of leadership, different kinds of tongues. 29 Not all are apostles, are they? Not all are prophets, are they? Not all are teachers, are they? Not all perform miracles, do they? 30 Not all have gifts of healing, do they? Not all speak in tongues, do they? Not all interpret, do they? 31 But you should be eager for the greater gifts.

1Cor 12

Introduction (12:1-2)		
a. (12:4-11)		Charisms, prophecies, tongues
	c. 12:12-26	Body
a* (12:27-31)		Charisms, prophecies, tongues

Romans 12

- A late “echo” of the same theme
- Presented differently
- Without emphasis on the Spirit — because of Romans 8 and perhaps because it was not an issue

Romans 12:3-5

Rom 12:3 For by the grace given to me I say to every one of you not to think more highly of yourself than you ought to think, but to think with sober discernment, as God has distributed to each of you a measure of faith. 4 For just as in one body we have many members, and not all the members serve the same function, 5 so we who are many are one body in Christ, and individually we are members who belong to one another.

Romans 12:6-9

6 And we have different gifts according to the grace given to us. If the gift is prophecy, that individual must use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is service, he must serve; if it is teaching, he must teach; 8 if it is exhortation, he must exhort; if it is contributing, he must do so with sincerity; if it is leadership, he must do so with diligence; if it is showing mercy, he must do so with cheerfulness.

And so...

- Belonging is at the heart of the matter
- It is grounded in baptism and in the Holy Spirit
- The variety of gifts
- All the gifts are for the good of all
- The one Spirit inspires them all

Conversation

PRESENTATION 5: (I) THE SPIRIT WITHIN

- Contexts
- Experience (1 Thess and Gal 5)
- Experience (Gal 5)
- Belonging (1 Cor 12)
- **Spirituality (Rom 8)**
- Spirituality (Rom 8)

Sequence

- Language for God
- Early Christianity
- Spirit in Paul
- Romans 8:1-17
- And so...
- Conversation

Language for God

- “Spirituality” flourishes
- Prayer v. prayers
- The “prayer thing”
- Relationship greater than words
- All words are metaphors

Early Christianity

And they thought it best to tear it down, so that it would not be a lasting shame to them that the Gentiles had defiled it. So they tore down the altar, and stored the stones in a convenient place on the temple hill until a prophet should come to tell what to do with them. (1Maccabees 4:45–46)

But now apart from the law the righteousness of God (which is attested by the law and the prophets) has been disclosed—namely, the righteousness of God through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ for all who believe. (Romans 3:21–22)

Spirit in Paul

- God’s justification by faith
- Participation in Christ

- The Gift of the Spirit

Rome and its Christians

- Rome at the time?
- Roman Christians?
- Their history?
- Sources...Suetonius, Tacitus and Acts.

- Christianity in Rome
- Claudius
- Jew v. Gentile
- Why it was important?

Verses	Letter	Rhetoric	Topic
1:1-7	Superscript		Sender, addressee, greetings
1:8-15	Thanksgiving	Introduction	Reasons for coming to Rome
1:16-17	Body	Thesis	Faith, salvation, righteousness, Jew, Gentile, living
1:18-4:23		Proof 1	Jews and Gentiles in need of Christ and faith
5-8		Proof 2	Salvation, baptism, life in Christ, hope
9-11		Proof 3	God's election of Jews and inclusion of Gentiles
12:1-15:6		Proof 4	Life together in the body of Christ, weak and strong
15:7-33		Conclusion	Reasons for coming to Rome
16	Conclusion		Greetings to 26 people in Rome, prayer

SALVATION *Rom 5*

FAITH

BAPTISM INTO CHRIST *Rom 6*

MORAL DILEMMAS *Rom 7*

PRAYER (ABBA FATHER) *Rom 8*

HOLY SPIRIT

CHRIST – HOPE

Romans 8:1-2

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the life-giving Spirit in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:3-4

Rom 8:3 For God achieved what the law could not do because it was weakened through the flesh. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and concerning sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 so that the righteous requirement of the law may be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:5-8

Rom 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh have their outlook shaped by the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their outlook shaped by the things of the Spirit. 6 For the outlook of the flesh is death, but the outlook of the Spirit is life and peace, 7 because the outlook of the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to the law of God, nor is it able to do so. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:9-11

Rom 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but **in the Spirit**, if indeed the **Spirit of God lives in you**. Now if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, this person does not belong to him. 10 But if **Christ** is in you, your body is dead because of sin, but the **Spirit is your life** because of righteousness. 11 Moreover if the **Spirit of the one** who raised Jesus from the

dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his **Spirit who lives in you**.

Romans 8:12-13

Rom 8:12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh 13 (for if you live according to the flesh, you will die), but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live.

Romans 8:14-17

Rom 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are the **sons** of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery leading again to fear, but you received the **Spirit of adoption**, by whom we cry, “**Abba, Father.**” 16 The **Spirit** himself bears witness to our spirit that we are **God’s children**. 17 And if **children**, then **heirs** (namely, **heirs** of God and also **fellow heirs** with Christ)—if indeed we suffer with him so we may also be glorified with him.

A Prayer

For this reason, I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on the earth is named. I pray that according to the wealth of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner person, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, so that, because you have been rooted and grounded in love, you may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and thus to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power that is working within us is able to do far beyond all that we ask or think, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:14–21 NET)

And so...

- Spirituality “in general”
- NT Sources: Luke-Acts, Paul, John
- The Holy Spirit
- Christian Spirituality for today

PRESENTATION 6: (II) THE SPIRIT WITHIN

- Contexts
- Experience (1 Thess and Gal 5)
- Experience (Gal 5)
- Belonging (1 Cor 12)
- Spirituality (Rom 8)
- **Spirituality (Rom 8)**

Sequence

- Where are we now?
- Scripture and “gospel momentum”
- Romans 8:17-39
- Cosmic Christ
- Romans 8:17-39
- And so ...
- Conversation

Where are we now?

- Risks of the present time
- Why am I still a Christian?
- What keeps me going?
- Similar issues today

Romans 8:1-2

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the **law of the life-giving Spirit in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.**

Romans 8:18

Rom 8:18 For I consider that our present sufferings cannot even be compared to the glory that will be revealed to us.

Romans 8:19-23

Rom 8:19 For the **creation eagerly waits** for the **revelation** of the sons of God. 20 For the **creation** was subjected to futility – not willingly but because of God who subjected it – in hope 21 that the **creation** itself will also be set free from

the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of God's children. 22 For we know that the whole **creation groans** and **suffers** together until now. 23 Not only this, but we ourselves also, who have the **firstfruits** of the Spirit, **groan inwardly** as we eagerly await our adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Cosmic Christ

The Col hymn professes that Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God—God's son in whom all things were created, in whom all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through whom all things were reconciled to God. **How within fifty years (at the latest) did Christians come to believe that about a Galilean preacher who was crucified as a criminal?**

Like the other NT hymns, Col 1:15-20 offers a challenge to understanding the development of NT Christology . . . Given the fact that most scholars judge hymns in the Pauline letters to be prePauline or nonPauline in origin, one should note where "high" christological statements in those hymns are similar to statements in the prose of the undisputed letters, e.g., compare Col 1:16 and 1 Cor 8:6. (*Introduction to the New Testament*, p. 617.)

- The Kingdom of God
- The resurrection of Jesus
- The outpouring of the Spirit
- A long way from the Synoptic Jesus?

Romans 8:24-27

Rom 8:24 For in **hope** we were saved. Now **hope** that is seen is not hope, because who **hopes** for what he sees? 25 But if we **hope** for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with *endurance*.

Rom 8:26 In the same way, the **Spirit** helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how we should pray, but the **Spirit** himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings.

27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the **Spirit**, because the **Spirit** intercedes on behalf of the saints according to God's will.

What should we do?

- Hope (the current experience of faith)
- Let the Spirit pray within

God has revealed these to us by the Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the things of a man except the man's spirit within him? So too, no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. (1Corinthians 2:10–11)

Romans 8:28-30

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose, 29 because those whom he foreknew he also predestined **to be conformed to the image of his Son, that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.** 30 And those he predestined, he also called; and those he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he also glorified.

Image

- He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be **conformed** to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. (Philippians 3:21)
- Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our **image**, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." (Genesis 1:26)
- For God created us for incorruption, and made us in the **image** of his own eternity. (Wisdom 2:23)

Romans 8:31-34

Rom 8:31 What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, freely give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is the one who will condemn? Christ is the one who died (and more than that, he was raised), who is at the right hand of God, and who also is interceding for us.

Context in Romans

- Disparagement in the community
- The deeper communion
- The unshakeable hope

Romans 8:35-39

Rom 8:35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, “For your sake we encounter death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us! 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor heavenly rulers, nor things that are present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Emotional Rhetoric

- Very poetic ending to the passage
- The rhetorical questions can be extended

And so...

- Recovery of the vision?
- Confident faith?
- Deep hope?

Soli Deo Gloria