

The Ministry of The Holy Spirit Part Four  
The Misunderstood Member

This week, I did a poll on Facebook to get some information:  
Do you like Guacamole?

- Yes (33)
- No (28)

I'm sure someone was expecting a platter of nachos here today, but this poll was designed to demonstrate a point....

I was raised in this town, and we had no Mexican Restaurants

- My parents said Mexican food was too hot to eat, stay away from it
- I was in my 30's before I discovered that I love Mexican food
- I had to taste it for myself to see that...
- But honestly, it took me while to try guacamole

If you go to a Mexican restaurant and order Chimichangas, they ask:

- Do you want it with everything?
- Guacamole and sour cream
- You can get it without it
- But you are missing out on the full flavor!!

Call Mark to the podium...

- Mark told me he doesn't like guacamole
- Then I asked, "Have you ever tasted it?"
- What was your answer?

Actually what Mark said was (thanks to text messages!!):

- "Smelled it one time...it's not natural...God did not make that, I think it's a sin"!!! (now I know Mark doesn't really think it's a sin, just not his taste)

Now here's my point: **Guacamole is a very Misunderstood Food**

- A large percentage of people who say they don't like guacamole
- Have never tasted it...
- They don't like the appearance of it
- They don't like the texture of it
- They were never exposed to it or had it presented to them as good
- They are going by someone else's opinion that has influenced them
- **They are not willing to give it a fair chance!!!**

**Think about this:**

- **How many other foods or life experiences are you missing out on, simply because you assume you don't like it, but have never tried for yourself?**
- **Based on the appearance**
- **Or based on someone else's opinion of it?**
- **Simply being unwilling to give something a fair chance...**

**My point here today is to be careful not to dismiss everything based on its appearance...**

- **Because, based on appearance alone...**
- **Even after witnessing many miracles, and changed lives...**
- **Many people turned away from Jesus...**

**In John Chapter 6**

- **Right after the miraculous feeding of the 5000**
- **Right after walking on the sea...**
- **Jesus proposed something that didn't sit well with the "religious" folk**

**35 And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.**

**41 The Jews then complained about Him,** because He said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven." **42 And they said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, 'I have come down from heaven'?"**

**51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world."**

**52 The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?"**

**53 Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.**

**60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?"**

61 When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, **He said to them, “Does this offend you?”** 62 What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? 63 **It is the Spirit who gives life;** the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. 64 **But there are some of you who do not believe.”** For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. 65 And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”

66 **From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.** 67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, **“Do you also want to go away?”**

Can you imagine this?

- After witnessing many miracles
- Hearing the Words straight from Jesus
- Because it was a little hard to understand
- Wasn't **“comfortable religion”**
- They just walked away

Can I tell you why this is why there are so many religions in the world...

- People make their own “Designer gods”
- People choose for themselves a God that suits their own desires

Just look at the Christian Church:

- Divided through Denominations, non-denominational
- Theology and doctrine
- Worship style, how we dress...

But one of the greatest divisions in the Christian church is over:

- The Holy Spirit
- **The Misunderstood Member of The Godhead**

Let's look straight at The Word of God:

**The outpouring of The Holy Spirit was prophesied:**

**Joel 2:28-29**

28 “And it shall come to pass afterward  
That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;  
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

Your old men shall dream dreams,  
 Your young men shall see visions.  
 29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants  
 I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

### **John The Baptist Confirmed the prophecy:**

#### **Matthew 3:11**

11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Imagine that...

- The first person to carry the Baptist title, was preparing the way for
- Baptism in The Holy Ghost and Fire!!!

### **Jesus Promised The Holy Spirit:**

#### **John 14:15-17**

Jesus Promises Another Helper

15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

### **Jesus described how The Church should function, with The Holy Spirit:**

#### **Mark 16:17-18**

17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

### **Jesus told The Church where the source of their power would come from:**

#### **Acts 1:8**

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

### **The Holy Spirit is poured out:**

#### **Acts 2:1-4**

Coming of the Holy Spirit

**2** When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

### **The promise of The Holy Spirit for all future generations:**

#### **Acts 2:38-39**

**38** Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

With all of that right here in God’s Word...

- I shouldn’t have to try to convince anyone about The Holy Spirit
- It’s as clear as the salvation message!!!

Yet, many “Christians” today choose to not accept the greatest power made available to them today...

- Because, it’s not “comfortable religion”
- It’s not easy to explain through the natural senses
- It’s messy...

The Holy Spirit is the One who gets us through the hard places in life...

- Through the mess and the junk

Yet people look at The Holy Spirit like guacamole...

- I’m not going to try that!!!
- I’ll have it my way
- I don’t care if it’s good or not
- This is how I like it...

Don’t take someone else’s opinion... try it for yourself...

#### **Psalm 34:8**

**8** Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good;  
Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!