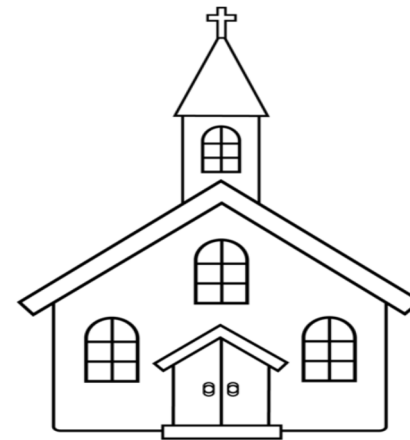


What if I trust these people and they let me down?

The Holy Spirit would say...

“Count on it...they will. I NEVER will let you down, but people are learning and growing. You might let them down as well. You are Family, my Family. I will lead and I need you to follow.
Trust me, I got this!”

If I were a first time visitor at this church, what would I be feeling?



What would the Holy Spirit say to me?

If I were nervous, unsure, or just curious about God and this church.

The Holy Spirit would say

“welcome home, I love you and I’ve been waiting for you”

“have a seat and let’s talk for a minute”

“how have you been?”

I’m really too busy to be here all the time, I have important things to do and one more thing just stresses me out.

The Holy Spirit would say...

“I have made you my priority from the time you were born. I will give you my full attention every day. Lets walk this out together, me, you and these people here. They need you as much as you need them”

You don't understand, I've sinned in a big way, and if these people ever found out, I don't know what they would do.

The Holy Spirit would say...

“My ways are not like mans ways, come to me and I will never cast you out, I will never leave you or forsake you. You don't need to please people, I will help you stay on the right path. They wont be your judge and they can't fix what's broken” “Besides, they have their own sins to worry about”

If I were defensive and only came to church to appease the one who invited me...

The Holy Spirit would say...

“Don't worry about people or the past, I brought you here, and I'm looking forward to spending a few minutes together”

“I've missed you”

If I were ashamed and feel guilty about things that have happened...

The Holy Spirit would say...

“I didn’t bring you here to condemn you, I love you more than you can imagine, trust me with your life today...all of your life, the good, bad and the ugly”

“I can, and will, make all things new, beautiful, and full of purpose”

I don’t understand why they do things this way. I just don’t fit in here.

The Holy Spirit would say...

“Again, I know how you feel. Church people can hold on to traditions or become irrelevant. Since this is new to you, try it. I love a new song sung by my newest kids. My kids love to try new things. You and I can work out the details later”

This church probably just wants my money.

The Holy Spirit would say...

“ Actually I want everything from you, but before you can or should give, let me teach you how to receive. I have a lot to give you. FREE. No charge, you can't buy it from me. You can't out give me! I will never run out, or run short. And No, I don't need your money”

If I were mad at religious people and hypocrites...

The Holy Spirit would say...

“I know just how you feel. Don't focus on people, they are usually not what they appear to be. Maybe they're hurt too. Probably insecure, and trying to heal.”

“Can I talk about you, and your hurts and struggles? I can fix whatever you need from me”

I've always had a problem with organized religion, so how's this going to be any different?

The Holy Spirit would say...

“ Yeah, me too. People think they have a need for security and control. They structure things to feel more certain about life and the future. I will give you security and peace if you will trust me. Stay close to me and don't worry about cliques or clubs that people create.”

I'm pretty sure I'm better than most of these people here, I already don't like most of them.

The Holy Spirit would say...

“Just relax, stop trying to compare. You are no better or worse than anyone else. This is about me and you. I have some things I want to talk to you about today. Right here and right now”
“Remember, I know things about you that you have forgotten, I know everything about your heart”