

# MR. NATURAL AND MR. SPIRITUAL

## 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9-16

But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.

For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.

For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

*Superheroes have superpowers. To be a superhero you need an ability that exceeds natural limitations.*

**Superman** has X-ray vision, and the capacity to fly.

**Spiderman** can spin a web, and crawl a wall.

**Flash** has lightning speed... to think and move.

**Blade** has an enhanced sense of smell.

The **Silver Surfer** is able to absorb energy. He has a piece of medal he uses to skim across the universe.

**Wolverine** has a healing factor, which means no matter his injury, give him a little time and he'll be back.

**Iron Man** is immune to radiation - he's able to breath underwater - and he can even make himself invisible.

Lately, my two year-old grandson, Luke, has been running through his house in a red cape and Superman costume - pretending to be a Superhero. *But wishing, does not a Superhero make!* You need a super-ability.

And here in the last half of 1 Corinthians 2, Paul reveals to his readers, that as believers in Jesus - *and thanks to the Holy Spirit* - we too have a supernatural capacity. *How else can we understand verse 16?...*

*It's incredible... "We have the mind of Christ."*

In this morning's text Paul talks about two types of people - **the natural man** and **the spiritual man**.

*Mr. Natural* has normal, human-born intellectual powers and wisdom. *He can see what's at the end of his nose, sometimes...* But *Mr. or Ms. Spiritual* is enlightened and instructed by God Himself. Through the Holy Spirit, he or she can tap into the deep things of God, and become privy to *supra-natural wisdom*.

As a result a *Spiritual Man* can live a truly heroic life!

This AM we'll start where we left off last week, 2:9. Paul quotes Isaiah, "**But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."**" This verse is often taken to refer to the afterlife... *And it's true*, Jesus is cooking up a heaven that will blow our minds and boggle our eyes and ears.

Heaven is a sensory experience unlike anything you've ever been exposed to on earth. Imagine, the prettiest sunset, and bluest ocean, and autumn colors at their peak, and snowcapped summits - *it's like black and white TV, or AM radio, compared to high-definition.*

In heaven, the colors will be richer - the sounds will be warmer - everything will explode with brilliance.

You *can* apply verse 9 to heaven, but I don't believe that was Paul's intent. Rather than the afterlife, Paul is speaking of the here and now. God has incredible blessings and power and wisdom stored up for us now.

Heaven doesn't begin when we get there - but now!

Eye has not seen... ear has not heard... the heart has not longed for... the mind has not imagined... what God has prepared for the Christian **in this current life.**

Yet this poses a problem. Paul has eliminated our normal portals for receiving input... *eyes, ears, mind...*

Spiritual blessings have no pixels, so they're not discerned by ocular means... The Spirit of God doesn't speak or sing in frequencies the human ear can

grasp... God's ways can't be deciphered by the brightest intellect or most inquisitive imagination.

*So how are we made privy to the things of God?*

Paul answers the question in verse 10, “**But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit...**” In our last three studies we learned that God works in paradoxical ways... He chooses *the weak* to display His strength...

He uses the cross - what the world calls “*foolish*” to baffle the wise. God placed all His *wisdom and power* in what the wisest of this world calls *foolish and feeble*.

“X” marks the spot. It's at the cross of Christ that humans find the wisdom and power of Almighty God.

God also revealed His wisdom and power in *the makeup of the church* - and in *the methods of the courier*, Paul, the gospel's messenger to Corinth.

The church proves it's not about *status*.

The courier showed it's not about *skill*.

God fills His Church with nobodies that become somebodies in Christ... And He uses trembling and simplicity, not overwhelming oratory to win hearts. Paul came “**in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.**”

Thus, *the cross, the church, the courier* are all examples of God's power, and wisdom, and blessing.

We go to the cross. We're part of the church. We model the courier. I know where to go... I know where it's at... God has revealed His power and wisdom.

But how do I *tap that power, and draw from that wisdom, and drink from the fountain* of God's blessing.

Here's his answer... "God has revealed *them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.*" When God transmits His power, and wisdom, and blessing to us - His method of conveyance isn't visual, or auditory - it's spiritual.

If you're expecting God to snatch you by the lapel, and a giant finger fall from heaven to direct you where you ought to go, stop looking... If you're anticipating an actual voice from heaven - a deep baritone that sounds like James Earl Jones - instructing you, I'm sorry.

God doesn't convey His will through *eye or ear*.

And he doesn't even do it through man's intellect. There's no degree you can obtain, or course to study, or exercise program to boost your IQ, and develop the

smarts to know *“the deep things of God.”* It's not about seeing, or hearing, or learning... **God's Spirit** reveals.

Of course, you might say, *well what about reading the Bible? Doesn't God speak to us through this book?*

And the answer yes, yes, a thousand times yes.

But though the Bible is called *“the Word of God”* it was never meant to be approached without *“the Spirit of God.”* In John 14:26 Jesus said, *“The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things...”* John says the same in his first epistle.

The things of God - even the Bible - can't be grasped by the human mind alone. They're spiritually discerned.

It's the Spirit who searches - who *digs deep*, and *brings out*, and *shines on “the deep things of God.”*

The Bible involves the Holy Spirit's intervention on both ends. *As it was written... “holy men were moved by the Holy Spirit”* - and *as it's read...* the same Spirit who wrote the Bible helps us grasp its radical intent.

All we'd have to do is visit a seminary somewhere to find a professor who knows this book academically, but has never been awed by God's presence, and tasted of His grace and mercies. *"The deep things of God"* have to make it 18 inches from his head to his heart.

Having an intellectual knowledge of the Bible and knowing experientially *"the deep things of God"* are apples and oranges. In Matthew 15 Jesus said of the Pharisees, *"These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me."* The religious leaders had mouthed all the right words, but they were a stranger to their reality.

God never intended for His blessings and truths to be conveyed the way you teach someone math theorems, or multiplication tables, or the rules of grammar, or baseball statistics. He sees to it that *"the deep things of God"* are communicated spiritually.

Author Philip Yancey notes how many of the animals have senses that enable them to interact with the world around us, *in ways we can't*. Bats use sonar to find insects to eat. Pigeons use magnetic fields to navigate flight. Bloodhounds pick up smells we could never sniff.



And like the animals we need a **super-sense** to see behind the tangible world we live in to the spiritual.

Yancey writes, “Perhaps the spiritual or ‘unseen’ world requires an inbuilt set of correspondences activated only through some sort of spiritual quickening. ‘*No one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above,*’ said Jesus. His words points to a different level of correspondence available only to a person **spiritually alive.**” Like the animals we need an extra sense. There’s a big chunk of life we’ll miss out on if our only receptors are eyes, ears, brain.

God’s truth and presence is revealed by His Spirit.

This means knowing God is different than taking up a new hobby, or learning a new language, or meeting another human. It’s not a normal correspondence.

It requires another sense - *a superpower, if you will.*

If we want to know God and tune in to His will we have to go deeper - and the only way for you and I to do so, is with the help of the Holy Spirit. It is *“the Spirit who searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.”*

The famous musician, Ray Charles, suffered from glaucoma at an early age. His mom knew he was going to lose his vision and she tried to prepare him.

There's a scene from a movie that depicts her effort.

At 10 years old Ray walks into the house and trips over a rocking chair. He falls on the floor in pain, and cries for his mother's help. She takes a step forward, but then backs up, leaving him alone to figure it out.

As Ray learns to move in a world in which he's blind, he hears noises and starts moving in their near vicinity.

He senses a crackling in the fireplace, and reaches out a hand, but he pulls back because of the heat. All the time, his mom is looking on, concerned for her son.

Over time, Ray's hearing becomes more acute. The day comes when he hears a grasshopper chirp. He reaches down, knowing exactly where it's at, and grabs it up. He smiles and puts the grasshopper to his ear.

Still watching her son, Ray's mom is amazed by his progress. She gasps with joy. Ray says, "I hear you, Mama. You're right there." Ms. Charles tears up and says, "Yes, I am." She gives her blind son a huge hug.

And this is God the Father's attitude toward us. He knows our limitations. He realizes we're blind to the spiritual world around us, and in order to survive we've got to develop *another sense - a spiritual discernment*.

Even if it means us groping and falling at times.

Despite the inherent dangers, God knows we need *this deeper sense* to relate to Jesus, and serve Jesus, and become useful for Jesus. And when He sees that we're getting it, we're growing more and more sensitive to His Spirit, He picks us up and wraps us in His arms.

God is broadcasting amazing things, but you've got to be tuned to the right channel. *God's stuff* is conveyed by *God's Spirit*. Paul continues in verse 11...

**“For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.”**

Life is lived from the inside out.

Appearances can deceive. Take a man for instance. He can shave his head, or grow a beard, or lose some weight. He can radically change his facade. But the real person is *the spirit of that man* which is inside him.

I thought one of the most insightful comments about Bruce Jenner's gender change was written by Franklin Graham. In a Facebook post Graham observed...

"In Vanity Fair's cover story... the author talks as if Bruce and his newly chosen identity of "Caitlyn" are two separate people. Bruce's son Burt said, "I have high hopes that Caitlyn is a better person than Bruce."

The article also says Jenner openly acknowledges mistakes made with his children as Bruce, "and expresses genuine regret." I have news for them - changing the outside doesn't change the inside.

No man-made modification can fix what's wrong with the heart. Only God can fix the human heart... The Bible says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." This is what Paul says. Real change occurs below the surface - on a spiritual level.

As Bruce Jenner proves - with enough money, and with a twisted motivation - there's no limit to how you can alter the outer person. Yet the most radical cosmetic changes won't fix a broken, confused heart.

Here's man's problem, as verse 9 tells us, a normal human is blind, deaf, and ignorant to God's wonders.

Thus, he or she leans toward what can be seen, or heard, or learned. The tangible world is default mode.

This is why the Spiritual Man has to lean inward and Godward - in a spiritual direction. Real meaning, real fulfillment, real life will only be found on this deeper, spiritual level. This is where we should set our sights.

*It's not how can I become more engrossed and obsessed with the material, physical world around me, but how can I tap into those things that are spiritual?*

When I look out at you guys this morning, all I see are facial expressions, and body language - but I don't really know if you're tracking with me, or if you're 1000 miles away. Mentally speaking, some of you may've already checked out - you're at lunch, or playing golf...

Only the *spirit of man* knows the *mind of a man*.

**And only the Spirit of God knows the mind of God!** This is why if I want to know God I need to cultivate a friendship with the Holy Spirit. God's mysteries are hidden from *the mighty*, and available to *the minion like me, through the ministry of the Spirit*.

This is what Paul tells us in verse 12, “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.” Notice, there is a “*spirit of the world*” in contrast to “*the Spirit from God.*”

1 John 2:16 identifies the spirit of this world. “For all that is in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

*Here’s what’s passing away - what’s superficial and temporary and not of the Father: the lust of the flesh, or a fixation on physical pleasure... the lust of the eyes, a fixation on outward beauty... and the pride of life, a fixation on the here and now. This is how the world rolls... It’s “the spirit of the world...” It’s a mindset that life is all about feeling great, looking great, being great.*

But this isn’t the spirit God *has given us*, and it shouldn’t be *what’s steering us*. *Physical pleasure, outward beauty, the here and now aren’t always evil things, but we should never make them ultimate things.*

When you do, we’re following a different spirit.

Remember when Jesus taught Nicodemus about the new birth, He said, “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”

Then He added, “The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” It interests me that Jesus compared the spirit with the wind. Whether it’s the spirit of this world or the Holy Spirit, the spirit blows like the wind.

We’re all influenced by spiritual forces - godly or worldly. Ultimately, the *spirit* has sway over the hearts of men. We’re motivated by the spirit to which we yield.

Every golfer knows the wind is the “X” factor. With a strong wind in your face a shot you’d normally hit with a pitching wedge becomes a 7 iron. Or if the wind is at your back a fairway wood becomes a 5 iron. The wind is a huge factor. It dictates the game you have to play.

And so it is with the spirit! When the spirit of this world is in your face temptation becomes stronger, lust swells up inside, a fiery temper becomes combustible.

But when you’re hitting with the Holy Spirit at your back you’re *aim is straighter*, and your *shot is stronger*, and your *touch is softer*, and your *distance is longer*.

It's all about the wind that's blowing or the spirit you've received. Thus, Paul says we've *“received, not the spirit of this world, but the Spirit who is from God.”*

Then verse 13, *“These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”*

Man's wisdom teaches us lessons. It educates, but it's basic and minimal. It can't teach us God's wisdom.

Only God's Spirit teaches us spiritual things.

The Christian life is like joint enrollment. There are kids who take college classes, while they're still in HS.

Think of your life this way - the world we live in is High School, and we're all working on our diplomas.

We live, love, marry, raise kids, work, die. Hopefully we find Christ along the way. We graduate to heaven!

But all the while we're in *a joint enrollment program*. As we're getting that High School diploma, and living our lives, we also have the opportunity to rack up some college credits by learning about the next life. You can take advanced



classes that count for both! This is what Paul says about the Christian life. *It's joint enrollment.*

How sad though, if a student takes the same amount of classes and goes through the very same lessons, and fails to get credit for any higher education.

Yet this is what happens when you get caught up in this world. You're emphasis is just getting by, living day to day, without tapping into higher, spiritual realities.

Hey, the Bible says, "it rains on the just and unjust."

That means whether you're a Christian or not, you're going through trials and tough times - you might as well receive from the Spirit and let Him transform you into the image of Christ. In the end you won't just graduate from this life, but you'll also have some higher credits.

Paul encourages us to let the Holy Spirit be our teacher, *but here's where our assumptions betray us.*

When I say, "Let the Holy Spirit be your teacher?" You probably put yourself in a classroom, and imagine hearing, "Students, open your books to page 343." As if that's how the Spirit teaches spiritual things. *No way!*

Here's a better picture. Say the subject is the country of Aruba. We could open our books and memorize the state bird, and the Aruban form of government, and its population... *boring!* Or we could learn about Aruba by flying there, and stepping off the plane into a tropical paradise, and exploring the island and its people.

*Which would you rather do?* Well, this latter method is how the Holy Spirit teaches us about spiritual things.

Here's how Paul puts it, the Spirit teaches us by "*comparing spiritual things with spiritual.*" When you immerse yourself in the things of God's Spirit you become privy to a wide array of fresh input. A new world opens up to you. Everything about life changes.

It's like getting off the plane in a tropical paradise.

*If you land in Aruba, I hope your first move wouldn't be to read a travel guide.* Surely, you'll get some sand between your toes, and find a shady palm tree, and sip a little coconut milk. Start taking in all that's now available. Talk to a native and ask some questions.

Begin to *compare Aruban things with Aruba.*

This is how the Holy Spirit teaches. Our new life in Christ begins with *living*, not *scrutinizing or analyzing*.

Experience His love, and goodness, and grace. Sit under His holiness. Feel His warmth and power. Let His goodness drive away your worries and fears.

Begin *“comparing spiritual things with spiritual...”*

Here're a few suggestions, Compare what God says about you, with how you see yourself. He loves you. He's forgiven you. There's no condemnation in Christ.

Compare the things which are pure and noble and loving and of good report - with the trash you once let dominate your thinking and stink up your life. Revel and rejoice in the changes Jesus is working in you.

Compare the littleness of your problems with the greatness of God's power - *start having some faith!*

Compare your former fate with the hope you've been given in Christ. Think of how much sweeter His life tastes than the bondage you've escaped. Imagine the glories of heaven - compare them with the torments of hell. Make those comparisons and you'll be grateful.

Here're a few more suggestions, Compare the promptings you receive, with the priorities you glean from the Scriptures - the two will start to fit - sync up.

Compare the guiding you sense from the Holy Spirit, with the nature of Jesus. After all, God's Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus. The Spirit will always mimic the Master.

Compare the still small voice you hear inside, with the Bible you read, *do they line up?* They will. It's the same author. The Holy Spirit never contradicts Himself.

And compare what you're sensing spiritually with the gifts and calling God has placed upon your life - do they harmonize? Over time, God brings them together.

My point is, **we learn to recognize *the subjective promptings of the Holy Spirit* by comparing them with *the objective teachings of God's Word*.**

Whatever you receive from the Holy Spirit will always match up with **the written Word, the Bible, and the living Word, Jesus.** And if it doesn't, throw it out!

*Keep comparing, keep learning, keep growing!*

Seek to live in His presence, and be guided by the Holy Spirit. Dare to act on His promptings. As you do, ***“compare spiritual things with spiritual.”*** Keep learning.

Several years ago now, I woke up one morning and felt the urge to pray for my pregnant, daughter-in-law, Dana. Since the girl never answers her cell phone, I texted her, and assured her that I was praying for her.

Later that same day her blood pressure spiked and she was sent to the hospital. I don't think that earlier urge was a coincidence. I believe the Spirit prompted me to pray. The Spirit's job is to communicate with us.

One of the tremendous thrills of the Christian life is to be on the receiving end of a divine communiqué...

At first you're scared. You actually feel a little foolish acting on something that's strictly spiritual. You're not completely sure it's from the Lord - but then you step out in faith, and see God's hand at work. This is what turns a normal life into an superhero adventure!

In May 2002 US News ran an article entitled, "[Faith In America.](#)" A question was posed to American citizens claiming to be Christians. They were asked, "[How often would you say you have experienced God's presence or a spiritual force that felt very close to you?](#)"

Here were the results: [10% never, 17% once or twice, 23% several times, and 49% many times...](#)

But that means only half of Christians are opting for joint enrollment. We're all going through the hardships, but because of either fear or doubt *every other one of us* are leaving credits on the table. What a waste!

If you've been born again as a child of God, you've received the Holy Spirit. That means it's time for you to start "*comparing spiritual things with spiritual...*"

For verse 14 reminds us, "*But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*" Not everyone has the opportunity and privilege of being led by the Holy Spirit.

Rather than live a three dimensional life, *the natural man* exists on a single plane. His existence is flat.

He lacks access to the spiritual world around him.

From here on into chapter 3, Paul is now going to discuss the predicament and plight of three people...

*Mr. Natural, Mr. Spiritual, and Mr. Carnal.*

We won't meet *Mr. Carnal* until next time, but here Paul speaks of *Mr or Ms Natural*. And the Naturals are just that - they have no *supra-natural* power. They

don't have the Holy Spirit, and thus the things of God are foolishness to them. They lack spiritual discernment.

Mr. Natural's only input is from the material, physical, temporal world - so that's what he looks to for pleasure and satisfaction. It destines him for disappointment!

As a matter of fact, **Mr. Natural** doesn't just lack God's wisdom, his problem is more sinister than just a natural blindness. He's hostile and antagonistic to the wisdom of God. He considers it to be *"foolishness."*

This is why I scratch my head over churches who make *"the felt-needs"* of the people their emphasis. Their sermons are all about what God can do for us.

*"O, become a Christian and here's how God will make your life better."* He will! But they're approaching life from the wrong direction. We should never view God as a tool for our benefit - as a means to an ends.

The Bible says that we were created to bring glory to God. He is the end all! Whereas, the natural man sees life self-centeredly - *"give me a better, easier life."*

The **natural man** doesn't know what his real needs even are... he's blind and deaf to God's diagnosis.

In fact, bring up *his sin and need for repentance - his pride and need for humility - his independent streak and need to trust God* - and he'll consider you foolish.

The natural person doesn't know what his or her real needs are, until they're enlightened by the Holy Spirit.

*Which causes a misconception.* Sometimes skeptics talk about the Christian life as being restrictive and limiting - *look at all you're giving up to be a Christian?*

But here, it's the **natural man** that's limited.

He lacks access to a whole segment of life. Imagine, spending your entire lifetime and never tapping into the real world for which you were truly made to enjoy...

What if you grew up in Lilburn, GA - lived here - and died here - having never visited Stone Mountain Park?

How silly you'd look. People would scoff, *he lived his whole life next to an incredible place, and never bothered to check it out? What a wasted opportunity!*

The natural man chooses to live a partial life at best. It's Mr. and Ms. Spiritual who grab for all the gusto!



Verse 15, “**But he who is spiritual judges all things...**” He’s the man who lives the full, rich, complete life.

The man who’s known God’s wisdom, and power, and blessing departs this world with no regrets.

His bucket list is *before him, not behind him*.

The greater pleasures are still to come. This life has been a foretaste - a teaser - preparation for the true prize! He’s judged all things and has proven “**what is the good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.**”

“**Yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.**” Here’s a problem. Mr. Spiritual navigates a course to stars that no one else sees - his fixed points aren’t on this world’s map - his bearings aren’t unavailable to Mr. Natural... so inevitably he or she is doubted and misconstrued.

This is why its frustrating to share what God is doing in your heart with a lost friend or an unsaved spouse.

You pour out your heart expecting a empathetic response, and all you get is a blank stare. It just didn’t compute. The person wasn’t privy to the info you had.

Inevitably, this is why the world persecutes the Church. *Mr. Natural* doesn't understand *Mr. Spiritual*.

And he becomes either *afraid of what he doesn't know*, or *jealous of what he doesn't have*. Either way, the natural man misjudges the folks who are spiritual.

Remember, the wisdom of God is foolishness to man. That means those who grasp God's wisdom will be seen by those who don't, as silly and ignorant.

In the days ahead, expect this kind of opposition to grow in intensity, not weaken. The prophets of old foresaw the world of today - a world that calls good evil and evil good - that misinterprets our love for hate.

Recently, Supreme Court justice, Antonin Scalia, spoke at a banquet in Baton Rouge. Here's a quote...

“God assumed from the beginning that the wise of the world would view Christians as fools and he was not been disappointed. If I have brought any message today, it is this: have the courage to have your wisdom regarded as stupidity. Be fools for Christ. And have the courage to suffer the contempt of this sophisticated world.” Paul warned those who are spiritual to expect scorn and ridicule. We'll be *“rightly judged by no one.”*

And then Paul wraps up his thoughts in verse 16 with a quote from Isaiah 40:13, *“For **“who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?”**”*

In Isaiah, this question is asked in anticipation of a negative response. In essence, *Who are you kidding? No one has God’s mind. No one instructs the Lord.*

God is sovereign. He needs nada. Isaiah 40 goes on, *“(To God) **The nations are as a drop in the bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales.**”*

Yet here Paul dares to diverge from Isaiah’s tone.

Rather than paint God into an ivory tower where He’s alone and unapproachable in His wisdom, Paul says just the opposite, *“**But we have the mind of Christ.**”*

Something has happened with us, that was unheard of in the OT. God is now networking. He shares files.

He’s given us access to His thoughts, His ways, His will. The Philips translation renders verse 16, *“**we who are spiritual have the very thoughts of Christ.**”* God has sent us the Holy Spirit to make us privy to His wisdom. This is incredible truth, *“**We have the mind of Christ.**”*

When you hear that, first note the obvious, **we have a mind!** Don't think being spiritual means turning off your brain, and going into a trance where the Holy Spirit becomes a work-around for your intellect. No so.

The Spirit enlightens our intellect! God isn't against us thinking and using our brain. He anoints our thinking with *insights*, and *intuition*, and *understanding* from the Holy Spirit. He ramps up our thinking to higher levels.

What an amazing blessing to have *"the mind of Christ."* While on Earth, there was *no question* Jesus couldn't answer - *no problem* He couldn't solve.

He always had the right word, the perfect reaction for every situation. And now our brains have access to His wisdom through the conveyance of the Holy Spirit.

Let me close with another quote by Philip Yancey, **"No other religion makes such an extravagant claim: that the God of the universe exists not just as an external power whom we must obey, but as One who lives inside us, transforming from the inside out and opening a channel of direct correspondence with God."**

Here's one of the uniquenesses of the Christian faith.

The Holy Spirit is a superpower reserved only for the Christian. God's Spirit enables us to live a heroic life.

Mr. Natural has a mind of his own. *See where that gets him...* But Mr. Spiritual has *"the mind of Christ!"*

*Can you imagine a greater blessing?*