

Luke 3:21–22, Jesus' Baptism

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Notes:

- This is a short text but very significant. Hence it is important to see it in light of the whole of the gospel and the Bible in general. Two verses don't explain everything.
- Attend to four basic truths in the Bible as you reflect upon this passage
 - There is one God
 - The Father is God. The Son is God. The Spirit is God.
 - The Father, the Son, and the Spirit are distinct.
 - The Father, Son, and Spirit are united and therefore inseparable.
- Remember how the Spirit shows up elsewhere in Luke's gospel, especially in chs. 1-2

Questions

1. Where else have we seen the Holy Spirit at work in Luke's gospel (esp. chs. 1-2)? What did the Spirit do?
2. Since the Spirit was already at work in Jesus' conception and birth, what is the purpose of the Spirit's work in his baptism?
3. What is the Father doing?
4. What does that say about the unity of God in the work of the Father, Son, and Spirit in this passage?
5. Read Galatians 4:4-7. How does that shed light on what God is doing for us in this passage?
6. Where in your life do you need encouragement in the Father's love for you? In Christ's work for you to be acceptable in his sight? In the Spirit's work in you to awaken in your heart his life in you?