

WHO AM I



WHERE IS THIS



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CHURCH MOUSE

I would like to refute a rumor that I may have turned into a cookie monster. I have picked up a few crumbs in the past (miserly as they are), but the thought of devouring a whole cookie is overwhelming.

I would also like to touch on a touchy subject to-day, especially for Presbyterians, that being the Holy Spirit, the third member of the Triumvirate. Rev. Paul's July 21st sermon "The Grace to Grow" which was the third sermon based on the theme of our Church "Growing In Christ", pointed out the need for the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives if we are to grow in likeness to Christ. Quite often we think of the first results of Pentecost as depicted in Acts Ch 2:1-5 where the recipients spoke in other tongues. I can only think that this was a necessary ability for these early evangelists, in order to spread the Good News about Christ.

There are some denominations that believe the Holy Spirit has been received into one's life only if the individual can speak in tongues. Galatians 5:22 lists the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit that I believe refute this belief.

As we grow older, our resistance to the presence of the

Holy Spirit in our lives also grows. The two great barriers to allowing the Spirit to influence us are fear and greed the same two emotions that rule the stock market. We fear what changes may take place will embarrass us, loose our friends or lead us to pray in public. It might lead us to give away more of OUR hard earned money or give someone a helping hand when we don't have time for that sort of thing.

Every Sunday we join in singing an old hymn that asks God to bless us with the Holy Spirit. The hymn "Spirit of the Living God" was written by Daniel Iverson. His son Bill wrote the following account of the first time the hymn was heard in 1926.

"My father's famous chorus was written in the First Presbyterian Church, Orlando in 1926, located next to a 4000 capacity temporary tabernacle.

