

SEVEN QUESTIONS OF SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY

Who is God? Think Relationship

(Theology Proper) — A perfectly happy community of three Persons whose nature is to give who they are to others for their well-being, at any cost to themselves. The way they relate defines love and holiness.

WHAT'S GOD UP TO? Think Formation

(Eschatology) — God is glorifying Himself by preparing a people who remind Him of His Son, a people who live and love like Jesus did.

WHO ARE WE? Think Center

(Anthropology) — Gendered beings who were created in the image of God, designed to enter into relationship with the Trinity. At our center we have the capacity to relate to others in the same way the members of the Trinity relate among themselves.

WHAT'S GONE WRONG? Think Subtle

(Hamartiology) — We reject God, declaring our independence. We are thus infected with an anti-God virus that subtly pushes us to live our lives as if God does not exist (unless He's willing to go along with and support our plans).

WHAT'S GOD DONE ABOUT OUR PROBLEM? Think Confidence

(Soteriology) — By Jesus-Christ, He introduced the New Covenant by which His people receive a new purity (forgiveness), a new identity (adoption), a new affection (desire) and a new power (capacity) by the Spirit of God ... all we need to live and love like Jesus.

HOW IS GOD'S SPIRIT MOVING TODAY? Think Detach

(Pneumatology) — He is transforming us into “little Christs” by detaching us from dependence on all sources of life apart from God (the flesh) and attaching us to Him in a relationship of vital dependence.

HOW DO WE JOIN THE SPIRIT'S MOVEMENT? Think Community

(Ecclesiology) — By becoming a community of broken people, conscious of the contradictions in our lives and thus dependent on the grace of God. We become allies to one another in the process of seeing our flesh put to death and our new heart stimulated and released.

Adapted from “7 Questions of Spiritual Theology” by Dr. Larry Crabb, NextStep School of Spiritual Direction,
www.NewWayMinistries.org