

Beyond ourselves

Only 13% of people in Britain believe that 'human beings are purely material with no spiritual content', according to a recent poll by the think tank Theos.

If the majority of people believe we are spiritual beings, what do we understand by 'spiritual'? It seems it's a response to something beyond ourselves.

The obvious and reasonable answer to this is: God is the 'something beyond ourselves'. But people are turning to other things in order to find deeper meaning. Why would that be?

Many people think they know what Christianity is because they've been born in Britain or been baptised as a baby. Others think all Christianity has to offer is traditional nostalgia, such as the feel-good factor of candles at Christmas. They think they've tried Christianity. But the truth is no-one has 'tried' Christianity until they've met Jesus.

I believe there is a hunger in our innermost souls for God, the living God. Our culture and secular society has tried to squash it out of us but I believe that people are not satisfied with a superficial spirituality. We want deeper meaning.

A fly on the wall at a Youthchurch meeting in the Rectory on Thursday evenings would witness 12yr olds asking intelligent questions about the meaning of life, the nature of God, the purpose of humanity, the reality of the Holy Spirit, the truth about Jesus. The human spirit is at its core searching for deeper meaning beyond ourselves. And deeper meaning comes only through close relationship with Jesus.

It's right to use our intellect and human reason to understand about God and at the end of the day the most searching question is this: How open am I to discovering the truth about Jesus?

Jesus says: 'I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life.' (John 14:6) Whether we discover the true meaning to life depends on how we respond to Jesus.

If you would like to explore this further please get in touch.

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