



Bible Over Coffee

TAMWORTH

18 Oct. 2026

ESPRESSO SUMMARY

After opening introductions and prayer, the discussion focused on the purpose of Bible Over Coffee, personal faith journeys, workings of the Holy Spirit in postmodern times, and the biblical meaning of salvation. The event concluded with elated expressions of fulfilment, better understanding of various aspects of Christianity, and a prayer of healing for someone who was unable to attend.

The Deeper Brew

SCRIPTURAL DISCUSSION & THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

- **Answering God's Call:** We examined Isaiah 6:8 ("Who shall I send? And who will go for us?"), highlighting that God is always in search of who is available, and obedience to God takes priority over feelings, numbers or human metrics of success. Ultimately, obedience to God results in unparalleled fulfilment.
- **The Role of the Holy Spirit:**
 - A question was asked about differing church traditions regarding the Holy Spirit and whether outward expressions are required.
 - Helpful scriptural references include John 1:11–12, Joel 2:28 and Revelation 3:20, explain that the Holy Spirit is available to everyone but must be received voluntarily rather than forced.



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SCRIPTURAL DISCUSSION & THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

The Role of the Holy Spirit (continued)

- We discussed spiritual gifts as diverse ways God works through people (referencing biblical figures such as Samuel, Joseph, and Elijah), cautioning against elevating gifts or ministers above God.
- **Salvation and Conduct:**
 - An attendee raised concerns about church rules, legalism, and discrepancies between people claiming to be saved and their outward behavior.
 - Referencing John 3:3 ("no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again") and 2 Corinthians 5:17, you distinguished between exercising spiritual gifts or attending church and genuine inward transformation in Christ. Many a time, the Bible frequently illustrates our walk with God as a "race" or journey. Being "Born Again" and confessing Jesus as Lord and Saviour is the start or beginning of the race. However, nobody wins the race just because they showed up at the Starting Line! We must "aim for perfection" (2 Corinthians 13:11 NIV) and be consistent till the end of the race (Mark 13:13).
 - We noted that doctrinal church rules (such as mandatory head coverings) often arose from local historical contexts in the Bible and occasionally personal opinions, and should not become burdensome legalistic barriers.