



Mediumship Matters Podcast Transcripts

Season 2 Episode 63

Listener Questions

Hello, and welcome to Mediumship Matters with me, Hannah Macintyre! I hope you're well. Today, I'm answering a thought-provoking question from my dear friend Jane, who wrote in after listening to my episode on "Love and Light." She's wrestling with something that many people find confusing—the relationship between spiritualism and Christianity. Are they the same? Are they different? And where does mediumship fit into it all?

So, let's get into it—fair warning, this might ruffle some feathers! But as always, I'm just sharing my perspective, and I'd love to hear yours too.

Is Spiritualism the Same as Christianity?

Jane's question really got me thinking, because I totally understand why people conflate the two. After all, both spiritualism and Christianity believe in an afterlife. Both acknowledge a higher power. And if you go to a Christian church, you'll hear the vicar say things like, "They've gone to a better place"—which sounds a lot like what mediums say in a spiritualist church. So what's the difference?

Well, here's how I see it:

- Christianity relies on a structured hierarchy. You communicate with God through the church, the vicar, the sacraments, and the Bible. There's a process—a set way to do things.
 - Spiritualism is direct and personal. You don't need a vicar, a book, or an official ritual to connect to spirit. Anyone can communicate with the spirit world—there are no gatekeepers.
- For me, this is a huge difference. In many Christian traditions, only the priest or minister acts as the go-between for the divine. Whereas in spiritualism (or whatever we want to call it), you have a direct line to spirit.

Sin, Rules & Spiritual Evolution

One of the biggest distinctions between Christianity and spiritualism is the idea of sin and judgment.

I don't personally believe in sin. I don't believe in a judgmental God who's keeping score, deciding whether you're worthy of heaven or hell. I believe in growth, learning, and soul evolution.

To put it simply:

- Christianity often teaches, "You must follow these rules to be worthy."
- Spiritualism (or at least my version of it) teaches, "You are already worthy. Your job is to learn and grow."
- That's a massive shift in perspective!

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Why Do Some Spiritualist Churches Feel So... Christian?

This is another thing Jane mentioned—why do some spiritualist churches feel so much like Christian churches? The hymns, the prayers, the structure... if we're meant to be embracing spiritual evolution, why are we still doing things the way they were done hundreds of years ago?

I think it's because when spiritualism first emerged as a movement, it needed to be palatable to society.

People weren't going to accept a brand-new way of connecting with spirit if it looked too different from what they were used to. So, spiritualist churches borrowed familiar traditions from Christianity—things like the Lord's Prayer and formal services—to make the transition easier.

But here's the thing: times have changed. And I believe it's time for spiritualism to evolve too. If we're just mimicking Christianity but adding a bit of mediumship on a Thursday night, are we really embracing the full potential of what this connection can be?

I don't think so. We should be encouraging people to create their own prayers, their own connections, their own spiritual paths.

What If You Don't Fit Into a Box?

This is where I get a bit stuck myself. I don't call myself a Christian. I don't call myself a spiritualist. I'm definitely not religious. So what am I?

I believe in God. I believe in Jesus. I believe in people. I believe that Mary down the street is just as holy as Jesus. And I believe that spirituality should be about direct experience, not outdated rules.

If I stood up in a church and said, "Mary from the post office is just as divine as Jesus," I think I'd get some serious side-eye. But that's my belief! The divine is in all of us—not just in religious figures or historical texts.

Evolving Spirituality: Breaking Free from Old Structures

The way I see it, if you're drawn to spiritualism, but the churches you visit feel exactly like a Christian church with a side of mediumship, something isn't quite right.

Spirituality should be evolving. It should be welcoming. It should be personal.

We don't need to hold onto the old structures if they don't serve us anymore. If something no longer fits, we have permission to change it. That's the beauty of spiritual growth—it's fluid, not fixed.

Final Thoughts: There's No One-Size-Fits-All Spirituality

At the end of the day, there's no definitive answer. You might believe differently than I do, and that's totally okay. I don't have all the answers (I probably don't even have most of them!). But I do know this:

- You don't need permission to connect to spirit. It's your birthright.
- You don't have to follow old rules if they don't resonate. Create your own path.
- The best spirituality is the one that feels right to you.

And if you're a Christian spiritualist, or you have insights I've missed, I'd love to hear from you. Educate me, teach me—let's have this conversation!

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See you next time!

Transcribed & adapted for accessibility & SEO.