

**Series Title:**



**“Jesus Promises the Person of the Holy Spirit”**

The Gospel According to John Ch 14:15-17

May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009

- Prayer for Haiti team

**Intro:** My daughter hates when I leave the house... she hates when I leave her at all... Whenever I tell her “I’m leaving... going to work...” or whatever, she gets really upset... until I say, “I’ll be back again later” ... then her whole attitude changes... it’s like she’s completely okay with me leaving her... because now she know that I will be back again...

In short, that is what Jesus is saying to His disciples tonight... “Guys, I gotta go to work, I gotta go save the world, but don’t worry, I’ll be back... but I won’t come like I left. The time is coming when you will see me ascend into heaven, but take heart, the Father will send you the Person of the Holy Spirit to be with you in my absence.”

Tonight, we will learn about one of the three roles of the Holy Spirit... We will be talking about how the Person of the Holy Spirit is “Para”, “with or alongside” us in this life...

So we begin tonight at verse 15...

**John 14:15 “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”**

This is the first time in the Book of John that Jesus talks about the disciples love for Him... All other times thus far in the Book of John, Jesus speaks of His love for His disciples...

Verses 13 and 14 that precede this statement serve as an intro for us to realize the responsibility Jesus has placed upon us to do His

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

work in the world today... If we love Him, we will obey the things He calls us to do in His Word...

### 1. Love produces obedience

The connection between *love* for Christ resulting in *obedience* of Christ is a regular thing that the Apostle John talks about...

**John 14:21** "Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

**John 14:23** "Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."

**John 15:10** "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love."

**1 John 5:3** "This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome..."

When a person is in love with Christ, they have a great desire to honor, please, and obey Him.

If someone professes to love Christ... or if someone calls themselves a Christian but is not obeying His Word... That person does not love Christ. The result of loving Christ is obeying Christ... Love produces obedience...

Love is not just an emotion... it's an act... my actions and your actions should reflect the love that we have for Christ.

There is more to verse 15 than what we have discussed so far...

For those of us that do love and obey Christ, this plays out in our lives in more ways than just following a list of tasks...

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

As we seek to love and obey Him, He begins to reveal Himself to us more and more and the more we love Him the more His love for us affects all areas of our lives... Have you ever stopped sinning because you know that God loves you? Yes!!!

I'm able to love my wife more and more because Christ loves me and shows me what love is... (not to mention she's hot)

We love each other because Christ loves us... His love consumes us and we are then spurred on to love Him and people out of an overflowing life of God's love working in us...

The sign of a true Christ-Follower is the love of God.

**1 John 5:2** "This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands."

Continuing on...

**John 14:16** "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever..."

The main point for us to take from this verse is that when Jesus left the earth and ascended to heaven, the Holy Spirit then came to Christ's followers so that they would not be left without The Ultimate Resource...

The Holy Spirit is the third part of the Trinity. God the Holy Spirit.

Verse 16 actually gives us a wonderful look into the Trinity... All three parts of the Godhead are mentioned...

## **2. The Person of the Holy Spirit is my ultimate resource for the Christian life**

So for those of us who love Christ and obey His commands, Jesus says, "I will pray and ask the Father (who does not withhold the Holy Spirit from His children/Lk. 11:13) to give you "another Counselor" that will be with you forever".

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

“Counselor” = Gk: *“Parakletos”*

**(Turn to) John 14:26** “But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”

God the Holy Spirit will teach us all things pertaining to the Christian life and will intimately remind us of His Word.

**(Turn to) John 15:26** “When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.”

God the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth testifies about Jesus Christ. How do you know if something is really of the Spirit? Does it point to Jesus...? Does it look like Jesus...? The Spirit does the works of Jesus.

**(Turn to) John 16:7** “But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.”

For our good, God the Holy Spirit has been sent to us.

**A. The Holy Spirit provides us with strength**

Have you ever prayed, “Lord, give me strength”? Well, it is in those times, when we need it most, that the Holy Spirit, just like Jesus did for His disciples, comes and gives us supernatural strength...

**Matthew 14:30-31** “Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” <sup>31</sup>**Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.** “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

How often in our lives, when our faith is sinking do we cry out, “Lord, save me!” ... and IMMEDIATELY the Spirit of God reaches out

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

His hand to our weakening soul and pulls us back into the boat of saving faith...

**B. The Holy Spirit intercedes in prayer for us**

**(Turn to) Romans 8:26-27** “In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.”

Isn't it awesome that when we don't know what to pray, the Spirit does!

**John 14:16 (AMP)** “**And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter** (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), **that He may remain with you forever...**”

The Holy Spirit is God!!!.... Moving in our lives, working in specific situations, leading the entire church of Jesus Christ in unity. Giving gifts and filling lives with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control... For those who love and obey Him...

Albert Barnes puts it like this: “**What is the office of the Spirit? It is to furnish to all Christians the instruction [training] and consolation [comfort] which would be given by the personal presence of Jesus.**”

A thought that crossed my mind this week: I could be in the deepest cave in the most remote country in the world and guess who's there? GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT! Speaking and leading and providing strength and encouragement...

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

Maybe you are in a place like that emotionally or spiritually tonight...thoughts of suicide... God promises that He will always be there in your life...

**Deuteronomy 7:8-9** “But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.”

God is faithful and He is always working in our lives...

Continuing on...

**John 14:16-17** “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— (17) the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth and He guides us in truth...

**John 16:13** “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”

**Illustration:** Everybody get out your Drivers License.

If the Holy Spirit had a Drivers License, what would His Name be?

The identity of the Holy Spirit is the “*Spirit of Truth*”

This is one way to examine whether or not a particular movement is of God or not... Do the things that are happening match up with the truth? i.e. with the Word? If not, it's a spirit of perversity and not the Spirit of Truth.

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth because He communicates Truth...

This brings us so much comfort tonight because our world is filled with lies... we need God to lead us in truth... may we always seek to be people of truth... people of God's Word.

As you guys get older and you take on different roles at home and in church... always be alert to the devils schemes... his goal is to get us to drift from the truth... Continue to grow as men and women who build your lives on the Gospel of Jesus Christ...

Something I would like for us to notice is the way Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit...

If you watch Christian television, it's not very often you hear the Holy Spirit being talked about like Jesus talked about Him...

Notice in verse 17 how Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as "Him" and "He"..

### 3. Jesus emphasized the Person of the Holy Spirit

God the Holy Spirit is the third part of the Trinity we can know personally.

#### **(Re-read verse 17)**

Commentator Leon Morris: "The world is quite unaware of the Spirit's activities. Therefore it does not know him. It enters into no personal relations with him. But it is not so with the disciples. [Me and you] They do know him. The present, 'he lives with you,' **indicates a continuing reality**, just as 'will be in you', means a **future certainty**."

It is a reality that time and time again... that God the Holy Spirit will be with us!

Jesus did not leave us to struggle with the Christian life alone...

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

Do you have hope, peace and rest in the promises of God tonight?  
Or are you uncertain about this life?

By putting your hope in God's love tonight, He promises to always be there in your life by strengthening you with His Spirit.

**Romans 5:5** "And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."

**(Time of Prayer):**

Jesus called the Holy Spirit "Counselor" ... tonight, may we take just a few minutes to take the circumstances and issues in our lives that are of great concern to us and give them to the "Counselor" ... the Holy Spirit to work out... Remember, He intercedes for us tonight...

For the next 3-5 minutes, as the Lord leads this time of prayer, if you would like, one at a time, please stand and pray out loud so we can all join in prayer together...

**(Time of Prayer):** 3-5 minutes

**Closing:** If you are here tonight and you do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ... Jesus tells us in His Word that you will not see the kingdom of God... Jesus said to Nicodemus, **John 3:3** "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

Becoming a follower of Jesus Christ is the most incredible life you could ever imagine... If you want to begin a real relationship with Christ tonight, I will be down here at the front after the service to meet with you and pray with you... and you can be born again of the Spirit and begin to walk in freedom and forgiveness.

**Closing Prayer/Dismissal:**

**1. Recognize you are a sinner.**

You must admit your spiritual need. The Bible says, *"There is none righteous, no not one."* (Romans 3:10) Stop making excuses, blaming everyone and everything else for your actions. *"For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God."* (Romans 3:23)

**2. Recognize that Jesus Christ died on the cross for you**

The Bible tells us, *"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God."* (1 Peter 3:18). He paid the price for your sin. The apostle Paul acknowledged, *"...the life which I live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."* (Galatians 2:20)

**3. Repent of your sins.**

The word "repent" means "to change your direction". The Bible tells us, *"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."* (Acts 3:19) God commands people everywhere to repent. You must be willing to turn away from those things that displease God.

**4. Receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior.**

Jesus said, *"Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* (Matthew 11:28). It is essential that you come to him as you are. Don't try "to clean up your life" before you come to God. Instead receive him, and allow Him to do the cleansing. Jesus said, *"All the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out."* (John 6:37)