

THAT YOU MAY HAVE LIFE

(A Study of the Gospel of John)

The Spirit Will Help You

TEXT: John 14:15-17, 26, 15:26, 16:7-14

The most glorious thing Jesus did for us when He came to this earth was offer us forgiveness of our sins and the gift of eternal life through His death upon the cross.

But the second most wondrous thing Jesus did for us was His promise to send the Holy Spirit to help us in the new life we would have in Christ. Let's read about that promise in the Gospel of John this morning.

John 14:15–17, 26 15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ... 26 ... the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

John 16:7–14 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, ...

We who have trusted Christ have the Helper, the Holy Spirit living within us.

INTRODUCTION: Saying goodbye to someone you love is never easy; it is often painful. Sometimes it is downright excruciating.

Imagine for a minute what the disciples must have felt when they were saying their goodbyes to Jesus. Jesus had made it clear that He was about to leave them.

John 14:1–4 1 “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to

prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know.”

Jesus was headed for the cross, and the disciples knew this was happening very, very soon. And although Jesus had told them He would rise from the dead, the disciples sort of believed it, but they sure did not understand it. Suffice it to say that after they put Jesus’ body in the tomb, the disciples were not taking turns keeping watch at a distance so they could see the grave open and Jesus walk out. No, their complete faith in the resurrection did not come until after. John, whose gospel we are studying, frankly admits that it was when he saw the grave clothes in the empty tomb that he believed.

So, the reality that Jesus was leaving them and was going to die was agonizing. They had literally lived with Jesus for three years. They followed Him. After He was gone, who would they follow? Who would lead them? What were they to do?

That is why **Jesus said**, “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth ...” (John 14:16-17)

I. THE FATHER WILL GIVE YOU A HELPER.

A. The Helper is the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit.

B. The Holy Spirit is God, equal with the Father and the Son.

Acts 5:3-4 3 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? 4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”

C. The Holy Spirit is personal.

1. He is not something; He is someone.
2. The Holy Spirit is not an it; the Holy Spirit is “He.”
3. The Holy Spirit is not a force or power; He is the third person of the Trinity.
4. In John 16:7-14 there are twelve references to the person of the Holy Spirit with the personal masculine pronoun He, Him, or His.

John 16:7-15 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;

for **He** will not speak on **His** own *authority*, but whatever **He** hears **He** will speak; and **He** will tell you things to come.

14 **He** will glorify Me, for **He** will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you.

5. The actions of the Spirit are personal actions: He can

- Search
- Speak
- Cry
- Pray
- Testify
- Teach
- Lead
- Command

6. He is given personal names throughout the Scripture. In the New Testament alone He is given 39 different designations including

- a. the Spirit of God
- b. the Spirit of Christ
- c. the Spirit of Jesus
- d. the Eternal Spirit
- e. the Promise of the Father
- f. the Spirit of truth
- g. the Spirit of holiness
- h. the Spirit of grace
- i. the Spirit of glory
- j. the Comforter
- k. and over 100 times, the Holy Spirit

D. As the Father is

- divine and personal,

as the Son is both

- divine and personal,

so also the Holy Spirit is

- divine and personal.

And then Jesus said, "...but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ... (John 14:16-17)

II. YOU ALREADY KNOW THIS HELPER.

- A. You know Him because, like the Father and the Son, the Holy Spirit has always existed.** Genesis 1:1-2 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
- B. You know Him because you have heard and read of the Holy Spirit during Old Testament times.**
1. **He was a part of the creation of man.** Genesis 1:26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”
 2. **The Holy Spirit came upon certain individuals to empower them for particular tasks.**
 - a. **The Holy Spirit gave Joseph administrative ability.** Genesis 41:38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find *such a one* as this, a man in whom *is* the Spirit of God?”
 - b. **The Holy Spirit gave Moses and the elders leadership ability (Num. 11:17-39).** Numbers 11:17 Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that *is* upon you and will put *the same* upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear *it* yourself alone.
 - c. **He gave Gideon courage.** Judges 6:34 But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him.
 - d. **The Spirit gave Saul ruling capacity.** 1 Samuel 10:9-10 9 So it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, that God gave him another heart; and all those signs came to pass that day. 10 When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.
 - e. **The Holy Spirit gave David a heart for God.** 1 Samuel 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward...
 - f. **He gave Daniel wisdom and discernment.** Daniel 4:8-9 8 But at last Daniel came before me (his name *is* Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god; in him *is* the Spirit of the Holy God), and I told the dream before him, *saying*: 9 “Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the Spirit of the Holy God *is* in you, and no secret troubles you, explain to me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and its interpretation.
 - g. **The Holy Spirit gave The Prophets understanding.** 1 Peter 1:10-11 10 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace *that would come* to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He

testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

h. The Holy Spirit was directly involved in

- constructing the tabernacle
- making priestly garments
- moving people to give generously
- inspiring the writing of the Scriptures

Jesus was saying to the disciples

C. This Helper, the Holy Spirit, has been with us throughout our time and ministry together.

But Jesus added that this Helper is about to be more than just with you.

D. The Holy Spirit is going to be in you!

E. Jesus was talking about the change that would take place at Pentecost less than 60 days away for the disciples. At Pentecost ...

- a. The Holy Spirit came in all His fullness.**
- b. The Holy Spirit moved inside every believer.**

As Jesus promised, the Holy Spirit is still helping believers today.

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US.

John 14:26... the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

Have you ever wondered how the disciples and others remembered such detail of what Jesus said and did as is recorded in the gospels? For instance, how did they remember so much of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. They couldn't pop out their iphone and press the record or video app!

Could you remember? Don't raise your hands, because I would be embarrassed by how few go up, but how many of you remember the two points of my sermon to you two weeks ago?

And I know what you are thinking! "You're not Jesus!" And you are certainly right, but I was teaching you the words and message of Jesus, and those two points were directly tied to what Jesus said and did.

Now my point simply is, none of us would have, could have remembered all the early followers of Jesus remembered without the help of the Holy Spirit. After Jesus had ascended back to the Father and the Holy Spirit had begun to indwell all of the followers of Christ, He began to remind them of all the things Jesus had said to them.

And ...

A. The Holy Spirit still teaches us through the Scriptures.

1. He inspired the Scriptures.
2. He still illumines our understanding of Scripture.
3. He still brings God's Word to mind after we have learned it.

B. The Holy Spirit is the One who changes us on the inside to help us become more like Jesus.

1 Corinthians 6:11 ... But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

C. The Holy Spirit helps us by working in the lives of the lost. John 16:8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: This is what He did for each of us who have been saved. This is what He does in people with whom we are sharing the gospel.

1. Convicts men of sin.
2. Convinces them of the sole righteousness of Christ.
3. Warns them of a judgment to come.

D. The Holy Spirit always points men to Christ. John 15:26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

John 16:14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you.

One of the surest ways to tell whether or not a particular work or occurrence is of the Holy Spirit is to see who is glorified by it. If something draws attention to the Spirit Himself, then it is not of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit always draws attention to Christ, never to Himself.

CONCLUSION: And do you know that is what He is doing in some of your lives right now.

- Some, the Holy Spirit is drawing you to faith in Christ right now by convicting you of your sin, showing you Jesus is the only way, and warning you not to wait.
- Some of you, the Holy Spirit has particular ways He is trying to help you grow in Christ, ways that would be a blessing to you beyond description, if you would just yield to His leadership right now.