

HELP

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August 6, 2017

John 14:15-20

1. Have you ever found it necessary to ask for help?
2. Anyone who truly desires to live out the Christian life must understand that they need more than a little help.
3. Jesus made it clear that the Christian life can only be lived out in vital union with Him.

John 15:4-6

4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for **apart from Me you can do nothing.**"

4. In John 13:1 we are told that Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart out of this world to the Father.
5. The events recorded in John 13-16 took place during what we refer to as the Last Supper.
6. Jesus:
 - a. Demonstrated servanthood by washing the disciple's feet.
 - b. Instituted the Lord's Supper.
 - c. Gave the "New Commandment."
 - d. Revealed Himself as the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
 - e. Declared Himself to be one with the Father.
 - f. Pointed out that His continuing work would be accomplished through those who believed in Him.
 - g. Stressed the importance of abiding in Him.
 - h. Taught about and promised to answer prayer.
 - i. Sought to prepare His disciples for what was about to take place.
6. This morning we are going to focus on Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit along with His clear teaching on who the Holy Spirit is, why He is here, and what He does.

I. Who is the Holy Spirit?

- A. He is not an impersonal force like electricity or an element like water.
- B. Notice that Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a person. He used language that can only be translated as He or Him.
- C. Jesus went on to declare that the Holy Spirit was one with Him and the Father.
 1. "He presently abides with you."
 2. "He will be in you."
 3. "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."
 4. "We (the Father and the Son) will come and make our abode with him (the person who both loves and obeys Christ)."

D. The Holy Spirit is the Lord of the Harvest, and we see His identity clearly revealed in Acts 16:6-10.

6 They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by **the Holy Spirit** to speak the word in Asia; 7 and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and **the Spirit of Jesus** did not permit them; 8 and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. 9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that **God** had called us to preach the gospel to them.

NOTE: The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus and the manifestation of God's presence in the world.

E. Notice:

1. The Spirit possesses and dispenses knowledge. 1 Cor 2:10-13

10 For to us God revealed them (the thoughts of God) through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, 13 which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

2. The Spirit has volition. I Cor. 12:11

"But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing (spiritual gifts, ministries, and results) to each one individually just as He wills.

3. The Spirit manifests emotions.

a. Ephesians 4:30

"And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

b. 1 Thessalonians 5:19

"Do not **quench** the Spirit."

c. Hebrews 10:29

"How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has **insulted** the Spirit of grace?"

II. Why is the Holy Spirit here?

A. To be our Helper and to be with us forever. John 14:16

B. The fact that the Father has given us the Holy Spirit to be our Helper in answer to the prayer of Jesus is a pretty good indication that we need help.

C. The Greek word *parakletos* translated Helper has wonderful implications for us because of its meaning. (Thayer)

1. It speaks of someone who is summoned, called to one's side, especially called to one's aid.

2. One who pleads another's cause before a judge, a pleader, a counsel for defense, a legal assistant, an advocate.
3. One who pleads another's cause with someone, an intercessor of Christ in His exaltation at God's right hand, pleading with God the Father for the pardon of our sins.
4. In the widest sense, a helper, a succorer, and aider, an assistant; used of the Holy Spirit destined to take the place of Christ with the apostles (after Christ's ascension to the Father), to lead them to a deeper knowledge of the gospel truth, and to give them divine strength needed to enable them to undergo the trials and persecutions on behalf of the divine kingdom.

III. What does the Holy Spirit do?

- A. He teaches us, and reminds us of spiritual truth. John 14:25-26
25 "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. 26 "But 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 that I said to you."
- B. He bears witness of Christ, and enables us to do the same. John 15:26-27
26 "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me, 27 and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning."
- C. He convicts lost people that they are lost. John 16:7-11
7 "But 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 go, I will send Him to you. 8 "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged."
- D. He guides us into all truth. John 16:12-15
12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. 15 "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you."
- E. He empowers us. Acts 1:7-8
7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."
- F. He gives us victory over the desire of the flesh. Gal 5:16
16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
- G. He reproduces the life of Christ in us. Gal 5:21-24
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

APPLICATION

1. There are many other things that the Holy Spirit does like dispensing spiritual gifts, shedding the love of God abroad in our hearts, and guiding the directing work of the church on earth.
2. If we would know the reality of the Holy Spirit's presence and work in our life we must:
 - a. Respond to the Gospel. Acts 2:38-39
38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."
 - b. Acknowledge the reality of His presence in our lives. Rom 8:9
9 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.
 - c. Accept by faith that He is ready, willing, and able to accomplish His work in and through us.
 - d. Surrender the totality of our lives to Him.