

## **Comfort for Troubled Hearts: the Promised Holy Spirit John 14 and 16**

Seven I am Statements  
The Bread of Life (6:35)  
The Light of the World (8:12; 9:5)  
The Door of the Sheep (10:7)  
The Good Shepherd (10:11,14)  
The Resurrection and the Life (11:25)  
The Way the Truth and the Life (14:6)  
The True Vine (15:1)

### **Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled. John 14: 1-14**

### **The Promised Holy Spirit. John 14:15-30; John 15:26-27; John 16:4-15**

1. Notice that Jesus promises that God will send another Helper in John 14:16. Who is the original Helper? (See 1 John 2:1) Who is the anticipated Helper? What does the name Helper or Advocate tell us about the Spirit's role?
2. In John 16:7 Jesus declares that it is to their advantage that He leave. How could this be so? Would that have been an encouragement to you? Who would you rather have in the room today: The Holy Spirit or the Lord Jesus Christ? Why?
3. The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth in 14:17. Look primarily at John 14:16-26 and John 16:12-15. Who sends the Spirit? To whom is the Spirit given? What did the Spirit teach the disciples? From these texts, what does the Spirit do in our lives?

4. What does it mean to love Jesus in light of John 14:15-24? How does love for Jesus give rise to keeping his commandments?

V15: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

V21: "Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me."

V23: "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word."

V24: "Whoever does not love me does not keep my words."

"Obedience is the test of love, love is the context of obedience" Newbiggin

5. In John 14:23 Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as a homemaker. Think through what a homemaker does and how a homemaker is viewed in our culture. How is that similar to your understanding of the Spirit in this text? As He dwells in us, what is He doing in our lives?

"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

CS Lewis. Mere Christianity

"Let not your heart be troubled, because there's a place for you in my Father's house.

Let not your heart be troubled, because Jesus prepared the place for you. He opened the way. He is the way.

Let not your heart be troubled, because Jesus himself is your dwelling place and he will come and take you to himself.

Let not your heart be troubled, because Jesus and the Father are one, so that if have Jesus you have the Father.

Let not your heart be troubled, because Jesus has come in the Holy Spirit. He is with you now, and will be with you always, not as an observer, but a Helper."

John Piper 3.23.2012. "I am the Way The Truth and the Life"

### **For Further Reflection**

1. When was the last time your heart was troubled? In what did you find a source for comfort? How does it comfort you to know that Jesus himself is our consolation? What does it look like to shift focus from ourselves or our situation and put our faith and trust into the person of Jesus?
2. What is your relationship like with the Spirit? How are you cultivating that relationship? Do you see the given Spirit as an advantage to you?
3. Read the CS Lewis quote again. How is the Spirit working in your life? Is he doing this in any unexpected ways? Painful ways? Are you resisting His work or embracing it?
4. How can you communicate these comforts and promises of Jesus to your children in age-appropriate ways? In light of a broader relativistic and secular culture, how can we be winsome in teaching the uniqueness of Christ?