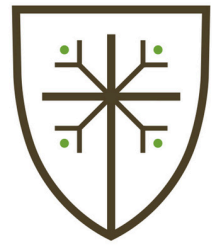


SERMON NOTES



May 25, 2025

SERMON INFO

TITLE
"Another Helper"

PREACHER
Rev. Craig Chapman

TEXTS
Acts 16:9-15
Romans 8:13-17
John 14:16-26

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Where can you see the Holy Spirit working in your life right now?
2. How can we form our hearts and the hearts of others to be more in tune to the movement and direction of the Holy Spirit?

SERMON IN SUMMARY

This week, Craig talked about the crucial role of the often-overlooked person of the Holy Spirit. He began with the question, "How can Jesus' preparation of his disciples help prepare us for living our lives today?"

Privilege

We first need to understand who the Holy Spirit is in order to appreciate his coming to us. He is not an impersonal energy force. He is a person. And when the Holy Spirit comes, Jesus will also be with them because they are of one being. When you get the Holy Spirit, you get the Father and the Son. Our gospel passage presents the doctrine of the Trinity – not three gods in three persons, not one God presenting in three different forms but one God in three persons. When the Holy Spirit comes to you, God himself comes to. His very life enters into you.

The Greek word for the Helper is "paraclete" – *para* (come alongside) and *kaleo* (to call). There are at least nine different English translations for the word paraclete, one of which is the word "advocate." Jesus says he will send another advocate, implying that he himself was one. There are two types of advocate. The first type is similar to a defense attorney, someone that persuades another for your benefit, not begging for mercy but arguing for justice. Jesus' blood has already paid for the lawlessness of our sins. The second type is what Tim Keller referred to as the "sober friend." This person doesn't persuade another but persuades you for your own benefit, a forever friend who dwells with you.

Priorities

The great privilege of having the gift of the Holy Spirit comes with ongoing priorities for the work of the Spirit in our lives. Craig focused on four of these priorities of the Spirit.

First, the Spirit reveals true life in us. It guides us to what and who we need to know, revealing a life that gives us a new identity. Second, the Spirit reveals our true identity. God promises not to leave us as orphans. We are adopted sons and daughters, children of God. Our true family is our family of faith.

Third, the Spirit reveals truth in order to transform us. He reminds us of Christ's words, illuminating God's Word to us that we might know and understand it as a whole and personally for what we are going through. The more we are transformed, the more we grow in humility as we realize the depth of our sinfulness and need.

Fourth and finally, the Spirit reveals Jesus Christ as our companion. Jesus came not only to save but to bring us into personal relationship with the communion of God. The Spirit was sent that we might never be alone.