

NETCAST SERMON NOTES

Series: Holy Spirit

Date: March 29, 2026

Title: God Alongside Us

Speaker: Matt Chewning

God "Along Side" Us

Key Scripture: John 14-16, 1 John 2:1

The "Big Idea": The Holy Spirit is our Paraklētos—the one called to our side to walk with us, empower us, and remind us of our true identity in Christ.

1. The Person at Your Side

Jesus introduces the Holy Spirit as "Another" of the same kind as Himself. The word Paraklētos literally means "one who is called to your side." He isn't a force or a feeling; He is a Person who walks at your pace—not pushing from behind or pulling from the front—saying, "We're in this together."

2. Conviction vs. Condemnation

The Holy Spirit interacts with believers differently than He does with the world. While He exposes sin, He acts as a Father in a family rather than a judge in a courtroom. His conviction is not meant to shame you, but to shape you and bring you back into alignment with who you already are in Christ.

3. Renewal Through Awareness

Walking in power requires a "renewal of the mind" where we set our thoughts on the Spirit. Just as a guest in your home makes you suddenly aware of the mess, the presence of the Spirit creates a deeper awareness of our reality, helping us see the areas in our lives that don't yet resemble the likeness of Christ.

Analogy: Under the Influence of Presence

- **The Unbalanced Tires:** We can get so used to the "shaking" of our own sin and brokenness that we don't notice it until we are in the presence of someone else.
- **The Unexpected Guest:** A sudden visitor makes us realize what is out of order in our home; setting our minds on the Spirit daily helps us see what needs "cleaning" in our hearts.

Call to Action: This week, practice Biblical Meditation by filling your mind with God's Word rather than emptying it. Ask the Holy Spirit to stay "alongside" your thoughts so you can walk with a constant awareness of His presence.