



**Yet Even More on the Promise of the Holy Spirit  
Doing Life Jesus Style  
John 14:15-31**

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Jesus is briefing His disciples about the changes that are about to take place because He is going to the cross in the next few hours. This is His last opportunity to talk to them since Jesus forced the issue with Judas Iscariot making it clear that He knew what Judas had planned to do.

The betrayal is already in motion now and events are beginning to move forward rather quickly. So, in these last few moments He has with those who will be accused later of turning the world upside down, Jesus is preparing them to do that. There will be more after the cross but for now He is giving them enough to make sure they don't totally freak out.



Because this is the last teaching that Jesus will do prior to the cross, the content must be important and as we have already seen, it is.

Jesus has been preparing His team for the new covenant that is about to kick off. Everything will change from what they have known about the law and following the Lord, and it is now all about Jesus.

John 14:6.

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.” (NASB 2020)

That was new. Loving other believers was new, so was His promise to come back. But most importantly, He has been talking to them about how they will now be equipped and empowered.

The biggest new, so new even Peter will make reference to it in Acts 2 in his first sermon, is the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. All those who believe, will have the Holy Spirit and for those who pray for empowerment, not only is He promised to do so, but Jesus blows their minds when He says “Truly, truly I say to you, the one who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I am going to the Father. And whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.” (John 14:12–15, NASB 2020)

We will be picking up the briefing in John 14 and it is still about the Holy Spirit. This is important and as followers of Jesus, when we see the Lord emphasizing and reemphasizing a point, we must stop and take notice. It's important.

The coming of the Holy Spirit is not a little thing. The Holy Spirit is the one who enables all of us as believers in Jesus Christ to do “His works” and “the greater than” His works. Something I, as your Pastor, desires for all of us for this new year we are now in.

1 Thessalonians 1:2–3

“We always thank God for you all and always mention you in our prayers. For we remember before our God and Father how you put your faith into practice, how your love made you work so hard, and how your hope in our Lord Jesus Christ is firm.” (GNB)

Per Paul, the key to identifying any church is to examine the fruit. What should be evident is faith, love, and hope. When he tells us that here in 1 Thessalonians, he is reflecting the reality of what Jesus is telling His disciples about life in the very near future.

I want to let you in on something. I cannot grow the ministry of Calvary Chapel, only the Holy Spirit can. He does this as He empowers us, and we step out to serve Him as His church, telling others about Him or inviting others to come and see. We do that because we are saved, and we are saved by faith.

We, all of us, are the church. It is only as we each look to His completed work on the cross in faith that we are indeed saved. That salvation, the work of faith that has been accomplished in each of us, is reflected to the world by our loving each other and serving Him in and through the power of the Holy Spirit as He operates through us through the Spiritual gifts, that He has given us.

As we continue to be faithful in our service and in our waiting for Him to come and take us home to be with Him in His very soon rapture of the church, then we reflect to the world what it means to be a believer. We are occupying until He comes because, after all, Jesus told us earlier that He is preparing a place for us and will come back to get us.



As we occupy, the world will truly see Jesus in us. But we must be Spirit led, filled and empowered for any of this to happen. Zechariah gave us the key to getting things done for the Lord.

Zechariah 4:6

“Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.” (ESV)

We pick up the conversation between Jesus and His disciples in John 14:25.

John 14:25–31

““These things I have spoken to you while remaining with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and remind you of all that I said to you. Peace I leave you, My peace I give you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful. You heard that I said to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in regard to Me, but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let’s go from here.”” (NASB 2020)

Jesus talks about His teaching and just how He has done that over the past three years. As He has done life with them, He has taught them.

Jesus has not only been speaking to them and giving them words from God, but they have also been able to see Him operate. What does He love, what does He hate? What makes Him smile? What did His face look like whenever He talked about the Father? What did His eyes say as He had His final conversation with Judas Iscariot? What made Him cry? What made Him laugh?

The disciples would know all of that and more. Whether or not they remember it all probably depends on the level of care they were giving to what was taking place around them.

As we do life, there are things we engage in or witness everyday and unless we believe it is really important, we tend not to remember it very long. It goes into short term memory and then is flushed, unremembered as not important. But it is all still there, recorded on the hard drive of our brains. The disciples are no different than we are. But they were with Jesus.

We know that everything Jesus did and said was a teaching moment. His disciples, at the moment it was taking place, not so much. They were jockeying for power and position and two even got Momma involved in the case. Worse yet, look at the context.

Matthew 20:18–21

““Listen,” he told them, “we are going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the teachers of the Law. They will condemn him to death and then hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him, whip him, and crucify him; but three days later he will be raised to life.” Then the wife of Zebedee came to Jesus with her two sons, bowed before him, and asked him a favour. “What do you want?” Jesus asked her. She answered, “Promise me that these two sons of mine will sit at your right and your left when you are King.”” (GNB)

No wonder they didn’t hear Jesus.



Jesus told His disciples, clearly, why they were going to Jerusalem, but they were more concerned about seating charts. They were no different than us, they made the wrong things important and the right things unimportant.

When He says, “These things I have spoken to you while remaining with you,” He was talking about all of this. All of the teaching He had done was dependent upon the circumstances under which it took place. It was not total or complete because of that limitation. Other things were going on.

His temporary “abiding with the disciples” was but an image of the future abiding (v. 23). So far (these things) He had been able to speak while those who heard could at least partly understand Him. There could not but be something which seemed incomplete, and something which seemed obscure to the hearers. But this teaching, now brought to its close, was to be completed and laid open by the teaching of the Spirit, which should be universal (all things as contrasted with these things). (Westcott and Westcott 1908, 208)

The teaching Jesus had done, was to a group of disciples who loved Him, but they were not Spirit filled at the time. There were things they flat missed. Why did Mary and Martha seem to understand Jesus was going to the cross while the disciples were rather clueless?

It all depends upon what you were listening to and where your mind was as the teaching took place. When I talk with folks, I tend to look right at the eyes to make sure I am listening. I too, many times, miss what is truly important.

For example, I remember in one football game I played in going to the huddle with the play called to be a 45 blast. It was to be on 3 but the QB changed it to 4 in the huddle. The problem though, I heard 3, and embraced that. Yes, I was offside and the TD was called back.

We have all had that take place where we think we heard one thing, but it was not what we heard at all. There is a reason why, in the military, we repeated combat orders over and over and over again. Trust me, it wasn't because I liked to listen to myself. We all have various levels of concentration when we listen and there are times stuff slips by. We simply hear what we want to hear. Jesus gets that and He understands His team needs help going forward, because they have all had varying levels of comprehension of what He has said.

The solution, serious help.

John 14:26

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and remind you of all that I said to you.” (NASB 2020)

Jesus promised that the Helper, the parakletos, the Holy Spirit, would come and be with us forever; physically inside of each believer. Yes, He is an advocate for us, but much more based on what Jesus is telling us here.

This is the Spirit (πνεῦμα). Sent by God or Jesus to the disciples (14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7)—not to the world, which has no organ for Him (14:17)—He teaches with all-embracing authority and yet with strict adherence to Jesus and His message, maintaining, expanding and completing the work of Jesus, leading the disciples into all truth (14:26; 15:26; 16:13f.). (Behm 1964-, 813)

Jesus is already expanding on what He had said just minutes ago in John 14:16 – 17. The disciples, as we have seen, didn't pick up on everything Jesus had said. They heard it, but then again, didn't hear it.



One of the Spirit's principal tasks, after Jesus is glorified, is to remind the disciples of Jesus' teaching and thus, in the new situation after the resurrection, to help them grasp its significance and thus to teach them what it meant. (Carson 1991, 505)

### **What the Holy Spirit Does**

The Holy Spirit will:

- Teach you all things.
- Remind you of all I said to you.

Is this something special only for the disciples or is this applicable to us today? How does this apply to me today?

Yes, only through the power of the Holy Spirit could the disciples put the pieces together and provide testimony of Jesus to us in the scriptures. But this is not just solely for them. One of the things we are encouraged to do in the scriptures is to search the scriptures. We are also to memorize them, but we are to "know" (Romans 11:2) them.

As we read them, we make them our own and the Word becomes part of us. But there is something else going on as well, we are recording data onto the hard drive of our brain. What you memorize it is there in the RAM, ready to be used at a moment's notice, but in the ROM, we have tons of data which we have read as we study the word.

The Holy Spirit knows that is there and if something comes up when we need to remember it, we "do." Or rather He does it for us by bringing it to our remembrance.

This happens to me on a regular basis as I study and prepare each week. I will read something and suddenly the Spirit pings me.

Something I read months or years ago, is recalled and I pull it up to see if it fits the context the Spirit is suggesting to me.

That is a spiritual gift, a manifestation gift called the word of wisdom. You may have exercised this gift in your own life and ministry without even realizing it. You are talking with someone, and they ask a rather involved question about the Bible. As you start to respond, knowing you don't know the whole answer, suddenly you do, and it just comes to you. Including the scripture references.

This gift operates so naturally that many times we are not even aware, until later, that we must have had some help.

That is what Jesus is talking about here in John. As we read through verse 26, first of all it is clear that the Spirit will not give us anything new, but He will tie the pieces together for us as we study the word. He promises to teach us.

This is the only book in the universe that I know where the author of the book tells us He will come and teach us if we struggle with what the book says. A prayer that will be answered is one where we ask the Holy Spirit to teach us what a section of scripture says.

In this new year, take this as a challenge. Buy a small notebook or journal, and as you study and read the word, every time you come across something you need the Spirit to teach you, pray about it. Ask the Spirit to do as promised here in verse 26. Write down the scripture you asked Him about and the day and time. Then be on the lookout for an answer. It may come in a conversation, a song on the radio, the



news, who knows, but you will get an answer. He will teach you what? All things. Let Him. When you do, write down the date of the answer and what the answer is.

As you do that, you will be creating your own directory of how Jesus answers prayer for you.

The other thing we pick up on here in verse 26, the Holy Spirit represents Jesus, He will never contradict or speak anything to us that Jesus did not already speak about. He will remind you of what that is when it is needed.

As we realize all of the resources that Jesus is now providing us, we are blown away. Then He stacks just one more one top of this to boot. I mean, the promise to teach me all things and remind me of all Jesus said, that alone is fantastic. But this next promise is one I claim almost daily.

John 14:27

“Peace I leave you, My peace I give you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful.” (NASB 2020)

Jesus is saying His peace, His shalom I leave you. That is exactly what is being said here. The answer is not, “Don’t worry be happy.” But it is “Don’t worry, be happy because...”

All of us want to be at peace in our lives. I mean, there was a period in my life where I managed civil litigation cases and that was fun, but it became a drudge too. There was no peace at work at all from 8 to 5 Monday through Friday. So, what did I do to get a little peace every now and then, I went on Air Force Reserve duty, where I was involved in military law enforcement. It was different though.

All of us want peace, and Jesus gives us that. On the outside, my job appeared to be anything but peaceful, but on the inside, if I was allowing the Lord to control, there was no turmoil at all.

What Jesus is promising here is much more than that. He is promising us a life without anxiety. A life of resting in His being the God of the universe and simply knowing that He does not allow anything into our lives unless it is first filtered by the Father. Paul takes this peace and provides us a commentary on practical application.

Philippians 4:6–7

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” (NKJV)

This is what Jesus is talking about. “As regards the material use of the term in the NT three conceptions call for notice: a. peace as a feeling of peace and rest; b. peace as a state of reconciliation with God; and c. peace as the salvation of the whole man in an ultimate eschatological sense.” (Foerster 1964-, 412)

We are not freaked out by events in our life or the world because we rest in the peace of God and are at rest in knowing He has it all under control.

As believers in Jesus, He is promising us the following:

- The constant and consistent presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us forever.
- Knowing He is preparing a place for us and will come back soon to get us.
- Doing His works and greater works as well.
- Answered prayer as we do life in obedience.
- A changed desire where we want to obey Him.
- Knowing we are loved by God and are hugged by Him from the inside out every day.



- Loving brothers and sisters in the Lord.
- His presence in us personally teaching us His word to us.
- His presence in us helping us to remember what Jesus has said.
- The ability and capability to be a witness for Him as we allow Him to work through us.
- Life without anxiety or worry.
- Peace in all things, all trials, all persecution, all troubles. Because “For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”” (Hebrews 13:5b, NKJV)
- A life that freaks the world out.
- A life that reflects Jesus Christ to the world.

“The world’s granting of peace is a conditional, negotiated and contractual matter, whereas that of Jesus is unconditional and incalculable. Like God’s giving of the Spirit to the Son without measure (3:34), Jesus’ own giving of peace through surrendering his life to violent death is characterized by the excessive generosity of love. Before the risen Jesus commissions the disciples for witness in the world, he will twice say, ‘Peace be with you’ (20:19, 21). Here on the basis of such a resource, he can exhort, Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. In the midst of conflict and persecution his followers can know an ultimate security that is an antidote to fear.” (Lincoln 2005, 397)

John 14:28–29

“You heard that I said to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.” (NASB 2020)

Jesus wants to draw their attention back to something He said to them just a few minutes ago. Call it a foot stomping moment. I had an instructor in the military who told us, that whenever he stamped his foot twice, we needed to remember the point as it would be on a test. He was right. This is that type of a moment for the disciples and for us.

Jesus Himself is restating the importance of His disciples, and that also means us as well, the point He made back in John 14:2-3.

John 14:2–3

“In My Father’s house are many rooms; if that were not so, I would have told you, because I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you also will be.” (NASB 2020)

For the disciples, they will watch Him leave in death and see Him return as He is resurrected. But more than that, they will see Him depart back to heaven, knowing He will return for them.

The reality of the rapture of the church is part of this as well as His presence in us right this moment in the person of the Holy Spirit.

For the disciples, their fear over His departure was because they still did not love Him as they should. They were still learning. But He tells them that if they got it, then they would be rejoicing because the plan has been achieved, redemption of man has been accomplished because of His faithfulness to the Father. The love of the Father has been fully expressed and joy should be the result.

Jesus had laid His heavenly glory aside in the Incarnation, but the Father had not done so, and consequently the Father enjoyed greater glory than the Son during Jesus’ earthly ministry. However now Jesus was about to return to the Father and to the greater glory that He would again share with the Father. This glorification should have caused the disciples to rejoice, but they sorrowed instead, because they focused on themselves too much. (Constable 2003, Jn 14:28)



And so do we when things go sideways.

As we allow His peace to take over, we realize there is a bigger plan taking place than what persecution or suffering we are going through right at the moment.

But Lord, I thought you wouldn't let bad things happen to me. He never promised that. He promised to be with you at all times and that He would never leave you. We do live in a fallen world and must interact with others in it.

Paul talked about this when he mentioned a personal issue he encountered as he did ministry for the Lord. God knew Paul and after being given a vision of heaven, something took place to keep Paul usable.

2 Corinthians 12:7–10

“So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (ESV)

The verb tenses should be noted. The skolops (thorn) was “given” (a completed action—aorist tense) in order that, as a messenger of Satan, it might continue to “buffet” (present tense) Paul lest he continue to be “over-uplifted” (present tense). Like his opponents, he has experienced “visions and revelations from the Lord ... an abundance of revelations.” But unlike them he has not remained “over-uplifted”; God brought him down to earth by his skolops, and kept him there, buffeting him. Meekness, gentleness, humility, patience, and endurance—the Christlike marks of an apostle, of which he has much to say in this letter—are connected with God’s “gift” to him of the skolops. (Barnett 1997, 568)

We have no idea what this thorn is. It could be a physical issue, a disability, a type of persecution, a broken relationship, we simply do not know. In his case, it was an allowance, by the Lord, of Satan to beat on him from time to time.

Please do not take what happened to Paul as normative for us today as believers. We all experience trials from time to time and they are not fun, they can even be physically or emotionally painful. The intent is mature us further in the faith. What you are going through right now may be nothing more than that. James 1:2–4 “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” (ESV)

They now know. The disciples, who are about to be severely tested, Peter much more than the rest, have been told about what is coming, in advance. They still were not hearing everything. But they would remember in the next few days, and it would help them.

Jesus then starts moving the conversation to a conclusion because He knows what it is He has started.

John 14:30–31

“I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in regard to Me, but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let's go from here.” (NASB 2020)





Satan is who is the ruler of the world system, and those who have been energized by him, are getting together as Jesus speaks to His disciples. Their intent is murder. But the reality is they have no claim on Jesus at all. What is about to happen is as the Father has commanded to happen. The redemption of man is about to take place.

And with that, Jesus announces it is time to head out from the room. With that, Jesus has ended the first phase of His briefing. There is more to come, and He is not done talking about the Holy Spirit yet either.

Jesus has promised that those who follow Him, will have a peace like the world cannot and will not ever understand.

That peace is available to all who receive it, and to receive it, all you have to do is believe what it is He has said.

Romans 3:21–24

“But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.” (NLT)

Romans 10:9–13

“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”” (NLT)

### **ABC’s of Salvation**

- A. Acknowledge that you are a sinner, tell Him that.
- B. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sin and that He rose from the dead.
- C. Confess that Jesus is Lord. Tell someone about what you have done.



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