

The Gospel of John

Living with God in You

John 14:16-24

INTRODUCTION:

This morning we are continuing in John 14. Although the message will be from the scripture text, it will be more topical in nature. I have entitled the message "Living with God in You".

Jesus is still in the upper room with the eleven disciples preparing them for what is about to take place. They are going to experience a change in their life. Jesus is leaving and they must begin to learn how to live by faith instead of sight.

In our passage this morning Jesus is going to introduce them to the trinity. He tells them that, even though He is leaving them, He will not forsake them. He will not leave them as orphans. Even though the thought of Jesus leaving them brings great concern and sorrow upon them, Jesus assures them that it will be better for them that He leave. Here is what He tells them...

John 16:5-7 (NASB)

⁵ "But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 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.

Jesus tells them that He is going back to the Father. You don't have to ask me where I am going because you already know that My Father is in Heaven. And you know how to get there. "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." And when I leave I will send a **Helper** to you Who will be with you at all times.

It is important to note that even though He is speaking directly to the eleven disciples, He is also speaking to us today. We are not able to experience the physical person of Jesus in our life time, but we do experience the Helper that was promised to them.

Who is this Helper?

He is identified in...

John 14:26 (NASB)

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.

How do we know that Jesus is making this promise for us as well as the disciples?

Jesus has already told them in verse 15...

John 14:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

Then He tells Judas (not Iscariot) in verse 23...

John 14:23 (NASB)

²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “If **anyone** loves Me, **he** will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We** will come to him and make **Our** abode with him.

Then listen to Jesus as He prays to the Father in the garden of Gethsemane that night...

John 17:20-21 (NASB)

²⁰ “I do not ask on behalf of these alone, (Speaking of the eleven disciples) **but for those also who believe in Me through their word;** ²¹ that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

So, you see, it is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit that abides within a true Christian. And a true Christian is one who loves the triune God and obeys His commandments.

How important is it that God lives within us? Listen to what Paul wrote to the Romans through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:9 (NASB)

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.**

So it is this simple: If you do not have the Spirit of God dwelling within you then you are still lost in your sins! The Spirit within you is your mark as a Christian!

So with all of this before us let's turn to our scripture reading this morning.

Stand and Read Scripture

John 14:16-24 (NASB)

¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) *said to Him, “Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves

Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. ²⁴ He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

Prayer

There is no passage in all the Bible that more clearly presents the Trinity than this. You have our Lord speaking about Himself, about His Father, and about the Spirit. He speaks of the unity of the Trinity, and He speaks of the diversity of the Trinity. They are one in essence and one in nature, but three in person. This is a difficult reality to wrap our heads around, but it is important to know that we are different because we have them within us in our lives.

BODY:

I. THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

I talked about the Holy Spirit in the message last Sunday, so I will only summarize what we discovered this morning.

John 14:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another** Helper, that He may be with you forever;

In the Greek language, there are two words for **another**. In English, there is just one. If I say, "Another something," that doesn't tell you anything about it. It is just something other than the one that you have in mind.

That is not true in Greek. In Greek, there's a word *heteros*. *Heteros* means it is different; another of a different kind.

Then they have the word *állos*. *Állos* is used here. It means another of the exact same kind. Like another apple.

Here in verse 16 Jesus uses *állos*. I will give you another exactly like I am, which is to say that I'm going to send you a Helper exactly like the Helper that I have been.

Jesus has been with them physically, but the Holy Spirit will dwell within you. I have not always been able to be with you, but He will be with you continuously forever.

And then we see the rest of the promise...

John 14:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

"He is the Spirit of truth."

Of course He is, because God is truth and Jesus and God are One. And the Holy Spirit is just like Christ. As Jesus said earlier in the chapter, "**I am the way, the truth, and the life**". He will be what I was to you. I am the truth and He is the truth. Everything He tells you will be the truth.

The world doesn't know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you."

What is that about?

How did the Holy Spirit abide with them?

In the person of Christ! That is the primary point of that statement. "He abides with you." "The Spirit of truth has been with you in Me. It is better for Me to go so that He can move from being with you **in Me** to being **in you**." **What an incredible promise!**

Now that takes us to the second of the three members of the Trinity. "**The presence of the Son.**"

II. THE PRESENCE OF THE SON.

John 14:18-19 (NASB)

¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also.

Wow, He just said He would send the Holy Spirit. Now He says, "**I** will come." That's the Son of God talking. After a little while, the world will no longer see **Me** physically, but you will see Me spiritually. And because I live, you will live also.

What's He talking about?

He is partially talking about His resurrection and His appearances before many of His disciples for the next forty days. But that's not the main idea. He is also going right through the grave and out the other side to continue to live forever. And because I am life and I am in you, you will have eternal life also.

Paul couldn't say it any more clearly...

Galatians 2:20a (NASB)

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but ...(What?)...Christ lives in me;...

And **who** is this promise made to?

John 14:21 (NASB)

²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

Some people think being a Christian means you believe a certain set of facts or a certain part of history. Some people think being a Christian means you have joined a group of people because you like their moral position. No. Being a Christian is having a living union with the triune God.

What does it mean to have eternal life?

It means to have eternal life living in you and that eternal life is none other than God Himself, which then leads us to the third member of the Trinity.

III. THE PRESENCE OF THE FATHER.

Listen to what Judas (not Iscariot) asks him...

John 14:22 (NASB)

²² Judas (not Iscariot) *said to Him, “Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?”

Why does he ask that question?

Because they were still chewing on the idea that the Messiah was supposed to bring an earthly kingdom. Aren't you supposed to be the Savior of the world?" To which our Lord answers and says,

John 14:23 (NASB)

²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, (He says it again.) he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, (That is the person that My Father will love.) and **We** will come to him and make Our abode with him.

There it is again. If you love Me and keep My commandments, My Father will love you and **We** will come to him and make **Our** (the Father and the Son) abode with him.

On the other hand, verse 24:

John 14:24 (NASB)

“He who does not love Me, does not keep My words.” In other words, if you don't obey the Word of God, you don't love God no matter what you say or do. “**And the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.**” Jesus received the words that he speaks from the Father. They are all in agreement. They are of the same mind.

CONCLUSION:

This is the way to view your own identity as a Christian. I don't think most Christians view themselves that way! So it is no wonder that Jesus says in **Luke 6,**

Luke 6:46 (NASB)

⁴⁶ “Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”

If you call Me Lord and love Me, and obey Me, then you give evidence of being the temple of the eternal triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. But if our mindset of Christ is just lip service we will not obey Him.

This is who we are. The world sees us only as human beings. We are not. We have supernatural life because our sins have been washed away by the blood of Christ and each of us are the temple of the triune God. The world does not understand this. They are spiritually dead and blind.

In the end, it is how we love God and how that love motivates us to serve Him according to His commandments, isn't it? You are the temple of the living God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Do you live your life by that reality?** Do you let your light so shine before

men that they may glorify your Father in heaven? Can you say that "In everything that I do and say, I do all for the glory of God?"

James 4:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

So understand this: the Father has the truth. He discloses it initially in Christ who is the living revelation of God. Then Christ sends the Holy Spirit who brings to mind all that Christ taught and all that Christ did so that the gospels can be written accurately by the writers of the New Testament. He is the Spirit of truth. Christ is the truth and God is true.

So as believers, you say, "How does this apply to us?" Well, God has preserved the scriptures in order that we can hear the words of Christ as He taught them so many years ago. The Holy Spirit is living inside us to give us understanding, guidance, and direction in our lives. He will be continually with us for eternity.

Let me close with this thought This is what the apostle Paul wrote through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 5:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer.

This is a great statement. What does that mean? The apostles have learned to live by faith. It means that we no longer evaluate ourselves or other people at the physical level. We do not see people just at the human level.

When we meet a person who is not a believer, what concerns us about that non-believer should not stop at the physical level. Yes, we are to help them if they are in need and if God has provided a means for us to help. But we look beyond the physical needs of the non-believer and concern ourselves with their spiritual needs as well. We know that the unbeliever is a part of the kingdom of darkness and desperately needs forgiveness and deliverance. Right?

"We know no man after the flesh". In other words we see spiritually, with spiritual eyes, because we understand the true condition of those who belong to Christ and those who belong to Satan.

So we are veiled in a way like Christ was veiled. We live in this world, and we are literally the very temple of the Trinity, but it is veiled by our human flesh. We need to understand and live by the reality of that presence!

If you love Me you will keep My commandments!

He is Lord.