

Sunday 17 May 2009
© usbc.org.uk/sermons
Rev David Blandford

The Ministry of the Holy Spirit



The Paraclete
John 14.16

AnotherParaclete

Sometimes an English translation doesn't sound as effective as the language that the words of the New testament was written in.

Jesus as he speaks of the Holy Spirit makes us aware that the Holy Spirit is one like him v16. This is true of the Holy Spirit's purpose and character.

Different versions of the Bible translate the name as follows.

- The NIV – 'Counsellor'
- KJV – 'Comforter'
- Message- 'Friend'
- NRSV- 'Advocate'
- GNB – 'Helper'

The Good News provides a helpful understanding, the Holy Spirit is there to help us; to encourage, to challenge, the comfort, to motivate. Literally the word means to draw alongside us.

A constant companion

The Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. *But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. John 14.17*

The Holy Spirit is to be with the disciples forever, even at the time of Christ speaking he was with them, but the promise is that he will be within them v17.

The Spirit of Truth

The Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. John 14.17.

Being like Jesus the Holy Spirit is one in purpose and character with the Father and the Son (Jesus). Just as Jesus is the truth 14.6, so too the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth v17; which means that the Spirit is trustworthy.

The Teacher

But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. John 14.26 NIV

The Holy Spirit like Jesus is the teacher. Jesus whilst washing the disciple's feet refers to himself in this way. John 13.14. Jesus was known as a Rabbi a Jewish teacher John 1.38, 3.2, 20.16. This teacher like Jesus is able to teach what is important and good to learn. He is the one who inspires the writers of the scriptures. All scripture is God breathed 1 Tim 3.16, remember breath can also be referred to as the Holy Spirit. John 3.8
Not only will the Holy Spirit teach, he will also remind the disciples of those things that Jesus had said to them, how they link in with other scriptures and what they mean.

Jesus in describing the ministry of the Holy Spirit in these ways is telling us that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is indispensable for every disciple – we need this ministry!

For Small Groups

1. As you think about the Holy Spirit how would you describe/picture/draw the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you think of the Holy Spirit as being like another Jesus ? What do you think Jesus meant when he said he would ask the father for another counselor (paraclete) John 14.16?
3. Which translation of the word paraclete do you find most helpful – NIV – ‘Counsellor’, KJV – ‘Comforter’, Message- ‘Friend’, NRSV- ‘Advocate’, GNB – ‘Helper’?
4. Are you conscious of the Holy Spirit being in you and with you? (John 14.17)
5. Pray for one another that the Holy Spirit would be One we welcome and embrace . Pray that we would desire any spiritual gift that the Holy spirit has for us and pray that the fruit of God’s Spirit would continue to grow in us.
6. Now take the opportunity to pray for the world, praying that you could be a positive influence for good and life.

John 14

New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

[View commentary related to this passage](#)

John 14

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

¹ Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

² In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.

Jesus the Way to the Father

⁵ Thomas said to him, Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?

⁶ Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.

⁷ If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.

⁸ Philip said, Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.

⁹ Jesus answered: Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves.

¹² I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.

¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ If you love me, you will obey what I command.

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever—

¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

²⁰ On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

²¹ Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.

²² Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?

²³ Jesus replied, If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

²⁴ He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

²⁵ All this I have spoken while still with you.

²⁶ But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

²⁸ You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

²⁹ I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.

³⁰ I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me,

³¹ but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me. Come now; let us leave.

[*New International Version - UK \(NIVUK\)*](#)

Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by [International Bible Society](#)

The Message (MSG)

[View commentary related to this passage](#)

John 14

The Road

¹⁻⁴ "Don't let this throw you. You trust God, don't you? Trust me. There is plenty of room for you in my Father's home. If that weren't so, would I have told you that I'm on my way to get a room ready for you? And if I'm on my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live. And you already know the road I'm taking."

⁵ Thomas said, "Master, we have no idea where you're going. How do you expect us to know the road?"

⁶⁻⁷ Jesus said, "I am the Road, also the Truth, also the Life. No one gets to the Father apart from me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him. You've even seen him!"

⁸ Philip said, "Master, show us the Father; then we'll be content."

⁹⁻¹⁰ "You've been with me all this time, Philip, and you still don't understand? To see me is to see the Father. So how can you ask, 'Where is the Father?' Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you aren't mere words. I don't just make them up on my own. The Father who resides in me crafts each word into a divine act.

¹¹⁻¹⁴ "Believe me: I am in my Father and my Father is in me. If you can't believe that, believe what you see—these works. The person who trusts me will not only do what I'm doing but even greater things, because I, on my way to the Father, am giving you the same work to do that I've been doing. You can count on it. From now on, whatever you request along the lines of who I am and what I am doing, I'll do it. That's how the Father will be seen for who he is in the Son. I mean it. Whatever you request in this way, I'll do.

The Spirit of Truth

¹⁵⁻¹⁷ "If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you. I will talk to the Father, and he'll provide you another Friend so that you will always

have someone with you. This Friend is the Spirit of Truth. The godless world can't take him in because it doesn't have eyes to see him, doesn't know what to look for. But you know him already because he has been staying with you, and will even be in you!

¹⁸⁻²⁰"I will not leave you orphaned. I'm coming back. In just a little while the world will no longer see me, but you're going to see me because I am alive and you're about to come alive. At that moment you will know absolutely that I'm in my Father, and you're in me, and I'm in you.

²¹"The person who knows my commandments and keeps them, that's who loves me. And the person who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and make myself plain to him."

²²Judas (not Iscariot) said, "Master, why is it that you are about to make yourself plain to us but not to the world?"

²³⁻²⁴"Because a loveless world," said Jesus, "is a sightless world. If anyone loves me, he will carefully keep my word and my Father will love him—we'll move right into the neighborhood! Not loving me means not keeping my words. The message you are hearing isn't mine. It's the message of the Father who sent me.

²⁵⁻²⁷"I'm telling you these things while I'm still living with you. The Friend, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send at my request, will make everything plain to you. He will remind you of all the things I have told you. I'm leaving you well and whole. That's my parting gift to you. Peace. I don't leave you the way you're used to being left—feeling abandoned, bereft. So don't be upset. Don't be distraught.

²⁸"You've heard me tell you, 'I'm going away, and I'm coming back.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I'm on my way to the Father because the Father is the goal and purpose of my life.

²⁹⁻³¹"I've told you this ahead of time, before it happens, so that when it does happen, the confirmation will deepen your belief in me. I'll not be talking with you much more like this because the chief of this godless world is about to attack. But don't worry—he has nothing on me, no claim on me. But so the world might know how thoroughly I love the Father, I am carrying out my Father's instructions right down to the last detail.

"Get up. Let's go. It's time to leave here."

[*The Message \(MSG\)*](#)

Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002 by [Eugene H. Peterson](#)

New Living Translation (NLT)

[View commentary related to this passage](#)

John 14

Jesus, the Way to the Father

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. ² There is more than enough room in my Father's home. ^[a] If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? ^[b] ³ When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going."

⁵ "No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶ Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. ^[c] From now on, you do know him and have seen him!"

⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

⁹ Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. ¹¹ Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do.

¹² "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. ¹³ You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ "If you love me, obey^[d] my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate,^[e] who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.^[f] ¹⁸ No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. ¹⁹ Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live. ²⁰ When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them."

²² Judas (not Judas Iscariot, but the other disciple with that name) said to him, "Lord, why are you going to reveal yourself only to us and not to the world at large?"

²³ Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. ²⁴ Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. ²⁶ But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

²⁷ "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. ²⁸ Remember what I told you: I am going away, but I will come back to you again. If you really loved me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, who is greater than I am. ²⁹ I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do happen, you will believe.

³⁰ "I don't have much more time to talk to you, because the ruler of this world approaches. He has no power over me, ³¹ but I will do what the Father requires of me, so that the world will know that I love the Father. Come, let's be going.

Footnotes:

a. [John 14:2](#) Or *There are many rooms in my Father's house.*

- b. [John 14:2](#) Or *If this were not so, I would have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you.* Some manuscripts read *If this were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you.*
- c. [John 14:7](#) Some manuscripts read *If you have really known me, you will know who my Father is.*
- d. [John 14:15](#) Other manuscripts read *you will obey;* still others read *you should obey.*
- e. [John 14:16](#) Or *Comforter, or Encourager, or Counselor.* Greek reads *Paraclete;* also in 14:26.
- f. [John 14:17](#) Some manuscripts read *and is in you.*

[New Living Translation \(NLT\)](#)

Holy Bible. New Living Translation copyright © 1996, 2004 by [Tyndale Charitable Trust. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers.](#)



Contemporary English Version (CEV)

[Listen to this passage](#)

[View commentary related to this passage](#)

John 14

Jesus Is the Way to the Father

¹Jesus said to his disciples, "Don't be worried! Have faith in God and have faith in me. ^[a] ²There are many rooms in my Father's house. I wouldn't tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you. ³After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together. ⁴You know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said, "Lord, we don't even know where you are going! How can we know the way?"

⁶"I am the way, the truth, and the life!" Jesus answered. "Without me, no one can go to the Father. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known the Father. But from now on, you do know him, and you have seen him."

⁸Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need."

⁹Jesus replied:

Philip, I have been with you for a long time. Don't you know who I am? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. How can you ask me to show you the Father? ¹⁰Don't you believe that I am one with the Father and that the Father is one with me? What I say isn't said on my own. The Father who lives in me does these things.

¹¹Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. Or else have faith in me simply because of the things I do. ¹²I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father. ¹³Ask me, and I will do whatever you ask. This way the Son will bring honor to the Father. ¹⁴I will do whatever you ask me to do.

The Holy Spirit Is Promised

¹⁵Jesus said to his disciples:

If you love me, you will do as I command. ¹⁶Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help ^[b] you and always be with you. ¹⁷The Spirit will show you what is true. The people of this world cannot accept the Spirit, because they don't see or know him. But you know the Spirit, who is with you and will keep on living in you. ¹⁸I won't leave you like orphans. I will come back to you. ¹⁹In a little while the people of this world won't be able to see me, but you will see me. And because I live, you will live. ²⁰Then you will know that I am one with the Father. You will know that you are one with me, and I am one with you. ²¹If you love me, you will do what I have said, and my Father will love you. I will also love you and show you what I am like.

²²The other Judas, not Judas Iscariot, ^[c] then spoke up and asked, "Lord, what do you mean by saying that you will show us what you are like, but you will not show the people of this world?" ²³Jesus replied:

If anyone loves me, they will obey me. Then my Father will love them, and we will come to them and live in them. ²⁴But anyone who doesn't love me, won't obey me. What they have heard me say doesn't really come from me, but from the Father who sent me.

²⁵I have told you these things while I am still with you. ²⁶But the

Holy Spirit will come and help ^[d] you, because the Father will send the Spirit to take my place. The Spirit will teach you everything and will remind you of what I said while I was with you. ²⁷I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give. It isn't like the peace that this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid.

²⁸You have already heard me say that I am going and that I will also come back to you. If you really love me, you should be glad that I am going back to the Father, because he is greater than I am.

²⁹I am telling you this before I leave, so that when it does happen, you will have faith in me. ³⁰I cannot speak with you much longer, because the ruler of this world is coming. But he has no power over me. ³¹I obey my Father, so that everyone in the world might know that I love him.

It is time for us to go now.

Footnotes:

- a. [John 14:1](#) *Have faith in God and have faith in me:* Or " You have faith in God, so have faith in me."
- b. [John 14:16](#) *help:* The Greek word may mean " comfort," " encourage," or " defend."
- c. [John 14:22](#) *Iscairiot:* See the note at 6.71.
- d. [John 14:26](#) *help:* See the note at 14.16.

[Contemporary English Version \(CEV\)](#)

Copyright © 1995 by [American Bible Society](#)

New King James Version (NKJV)

[View commentary related to this passage](#)

John 14

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

¹ "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many mansions; ^[a] if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ^[b] ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself;

that where I am, *there* you may be also. ⁴ And where I go you know, and the way you know."

⁵ Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

The Father Revealed

⁷ "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

⁸ Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. ¹¹ Believe Me that I *am* in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

The Answered Prayer

¹² "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask^[d] anything in My name, I will do *it*.

Jesus Promises Another Helper

¹⁵ "If you love Me, keep^[d] My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Indwelling of the Father and the Son

¹⁹ "A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. ²⁰ At 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, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, how is it that You will manifest 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 home 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.

The Gift of His Peace

²⁵ "These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 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 things that I said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. ²⁸ You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming *back* to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ^[e] 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I.

²⁹ "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. ³¹ But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.