

SPIRIT OF TRUTH

As preached on Sunday, May 17th

Read: John 14:15-31

1. In v.16 Jesus promises his followers that they will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Have they heard of the Spirit before? Has the Spirit been at work in the world before this time? (explain)
2. Jesus calls the Spirit “another advocate”. Why? What is the significance of each of these words?
3. Jesus mentions four things the Spirit can do in and through us in this passage. What are they? Describe a specific occasion when you have experienced the Spirit’s help in one of these ways.
4. When Jesus says, “If you love me, keep my commands” is he saying that our relationship and standing with him are threatened if we are not able to do so? Why, or why not?
5. Some of us have trouble separating Jesus’ teaching about obedience from legalistic communities or environments we’ve experienced in the past. How can we grow to understand and experience Jesus’ commands as “gracious invitations” instead of legalistic burdens? How can we help others to do the same?
6. What does Jesus mean in v.23 when he says that he and his Father will “come to them and make our home with them”? How do we know that this has happened in us? Have you experienced it?
7. Jesus speaks in v.27 of a special kind of peace that he has given to his followers. What kind of peace is it? How is the peace Jesus gives different than the peace the world offers?
8. Of the three major areas Jesus covered in this week’s text (Holy Spirit, Love & Obedience, Peace) which is the most significant to you at this point in your faith journey? What is one tangible way that you can trust God more fully in that area?