

## ANOTHER HELPER

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Key verses: John 12:14-26

In this Upper Room Discourse (John 14, 15, 16 & 17) Jesus is preparing His disciples for what is about to happen.

First, His physical departure as the Son of God, the Incarnate Christ, the First Helper is at hand. He will die on a cross, be buried, and then rise from the dead, and ascend into heaven after a period of forty days.

Second, He will return through the Gift of the Holy Spirit. God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) makes His home in every believer's heart.

### PART 1: JOHN 14:12-14

#### THE WORK OF JESUS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE LIVES OF EVERY BELIEVER

*John 14:12-14 ESV* ***“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. (13) Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (14) If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.***

What these verses say:

1. All of us who believe in Jesus will carry on with His work.
2. In some wonderful way, we will all do something greater than the works of Jesus.
3. We will have access in prayer to Jesus so that we can ask for and receive everything we need.

#### 1.1 ALL BELIEVERS CARRY ON THE WORKS OF JESUS

Verse 12a ***“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do;...***

It's a promise to all believers. There is no exclusion here if you are a Christian. The text says, ***“Whoever believes in me.”*** Believers will do the works Jesus did.

We have seen this exact phrase (*Whoever believes in me*) before:

- ***“Whoever believes in me shall never thirst”*** John 6:35
- ***“Whoever believes in me ... ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water’”*** John 7:38
- ***“Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live”*** John 11:25
- ***“Whoever believes in me will not remain in darkness”*** John 12:46

In other words, this is normal Christianity. This is what it means to be a Christian. To do the works Jesus did.

What Works?

We create problems for ourselves by thinking of Jesus' most amazing miracles.

**And if you don't do miracles, does it mean you don't believe?**

*1 Corinthians 12:29 ESV Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?*

**Well, if Jesus doesn't mean that all believers will do miracles, what does he mean when he says, "Whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do"?**

Look at the connection between verses 11 and 12.

*John 14:11 ESV Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.*

The words "believe" and "works" occur together in verse 11 just like they come together in verse 12.

**Jesus' works are designed to help people believe.**

*If my verbal testimony is leaving doubts in your mind about who I am, look at my works. Let my works join with my words and lead you to faith. That's what verse 11 says.*

Then verse 12 follows: "*Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do."*

Now put verses 11 and 12 together and let the function of the works be the same in both verses.

Verse 11: My works function to lead people to faith in me.

Verse 12: When you believe in me, I will work in you, like a vine works in a branch, your works, like mine, will lead people to faith.

So, the connection between verses 11 and 12 goes like this:

*Believe in me on account of my works — let my works lead you to faith (verse 11),*

*Whoever believes in me (verse 12a), will also do works that lead people to believe in me.*

Your works (your life) are a display of the trustworthiness of Jesus.

In Matthew 5:16 **Jesus said, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."**

Christians are defined by their works or the life that flows from faith in Jesus and points to the glory of Jesus.

*Ephesians 2:10 ESV For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

Even though God may give some gifts of miracles and healings, all of us do the works of Jesus, and live a life of words and deeds that help people believe in Jesus.

## 1.2 DOING GREATER WORKS THAN JESUS

In some wonderful way, we will all do something greater than the works of Jesus.

When Jesus said, "*Whoever believes in me . . . greater works than these will he do because I go **to the Father,**"* He probably did not mean that every Christian was expected to do things more miraculous than Jesus — at least not more spectacularly miraculous. No Christian has ever done this.

So, what does he mean?

Jesus is referring to what would happen when He ascended into heaven and poured out the Holy Spirit. What happened on the day of Pentecost was greater than anything that had happened in the ministry of Jesus.

Jesus was thinking of the amazing works of outreach and evangelism that we will do!

### 1.3 EVERYTHING WE NEED; WE CAN ASK FOR AND RECEIVE

*Verses 13-14: Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.*

Jesus assures us that the power of prayer is almost unlimited. Anything Jesus agrees with, anything that can be asked in His Name, will be done for us. What greater power can there be?

In a real sense, the first Helper is still involved in our lives and ministry.

## PART 2: JOHN 14:15-26

### JESUS PROMISES ANOTHER HELPER, THE HOLY SPIRIT

*John 14:15-26 ESV "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (16) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, (17) even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. (18) "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (19) Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. (20) In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. (21) Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is 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 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) Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me. (25) "These things I have spoken to you while I am still 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 that I have said to you.*

1. Who the Holy Spirit is.
2. What the Holy Spirit does.
3. How to receive what the Holy Spirit gives.

#### 2.1 WHO THE HOLY SPIRIT IS

- The Holy Spirit is a Person. **Not a force or an "it".**

*Verse 17. "Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. "*

- **"Another"** is exactly like an equally divine person with Jesus and the Father.

*Verse 16. "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever..."*

- On the one hand, Jesus is saying **"I am going away"** and on the other hand Jesus is saying **"When the Holy Spirit comes, I and the Father will be coming to you."**

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

Verse 23. *Jesus answered 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.*

- The Doctrine of the Trinity

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not three Gods but one God.

The one God in three Persons. When you get the one you get them all.

When the Holy Spirit comes into your life, you do not get some force.

God is coming to dwell in your life.

The triune God is coming to dwell in the middle of your life.

The Bible says we must be "**filled**" with the Holy Spirit. This might give the idea that we are filled with some liquid. What does it mean to be filled with a person?

Illustration: When you receive an important visitor. Best foot forward. Everything changes – **the whole family's behaviour**. Impacted by the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life.

God is in the middle of your life!

*2 Peter 1:3-4 ESV His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, (4) by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.*

## 2.2 WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES

- Will be with us.

Verse 16 refers to the Holy Spirit as another Helper to be with us forever.

"You" – Plural Second Person.

**When the Holy Spirit comes into your life, He doesn't only bind you to Christ, but to every other child of God.**

The Holy Spirit brings you into a family – you get a new Father and new brothers and sisters. He puts you into a new community.

"Forever"- Jesus said that He is the resurrection and the life. If you are a Christian, your body will die but will be resurrected and you will live forever.

Once you begin to experience God, it will never end!

- The Spirit of Truth will teach us and remind us.

Verse 17 *Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*

Verses 25 & 26 *"These things I have spoken to you while I am still 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 that I have said to you.*

The Holy Spirit created the Bible.

The Holy Spirit gives us an anointing to help us understand the truth. 1 John 2:27

- The Holy Spirit does not only make Scriptures alive, but He also brings God to us and makes Him known to us.

Verse 21 *Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."*

- Ultimate Friend

Verse 16 *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper...*

Verse 26 *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name...*

**Helper... Advocate... Counsellor... Comforter...** A word so rich the English language cannot fully express it. Greek: *parakaleo* : para – alongside; kaleo – to declare, to argue a case.

The Holy Spirit is a real friend – the Ultimate Friend.

- Always with you
- Always for you!
- Willing to argue with you – argues against the enemies in your life and in your heart.
- Makes a case to you. Advocate.
- Bears witness of the truth.
- The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, where you are blind to your own sin.
- He sees everything in your life!
- Illustration: Parent of a drug addict. We are addicted to sin. The Holy Spirit is not going to let you alone.

*Philippians 1:6 ESV And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*

## 2.3 HOW TO RECEIVE WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES

- Believe and Obey.

Verses 21-24 *Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is 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 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) Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.*

Believe in the ministry of the first Advocate/Helper (Jesus).

Because the Holy Spirit is "Another Advocate/Helper", He tells us about the work/ministry of the first Advocate/Helper and continues it through his church and every individual believer.

Obey – Do not quench the Spirit! Stop feeding the flesh, yield to the Holy Spirit.

## CONCLUSION

### PART 1: THE WORK OF JESUS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE LIVES OF EVERY BELIEVER (JOHN 14:12-14)

- 1.1 All of us who believe in Jesus will carry on with His work.
- 1.2 In some wonderful way, we will all do something greater than the works of Jesus.
- 1.3 We will have access in prayer to Jesus so that we can ask for and receive everything we need.

### PART 2: JESUS PROMISES ANOTHER HELPER, THE HOLY SPIRIT (JOHN 14:15-26)

- 2.1 Who the Holy Spirit is.
- 2.2 What the Holy Spirit does.
- 2.3 How to receive what the Holy Spirit gives.