
SERMON NOTES November 22, 2020

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

John 14:15-26
Our Loving Helper
Pastor Mike

I. Discovering _____ in the relationship between _____

II. Teaching #1; The promise of _____

III. Teaching #2; Love of God is expressed as _____

a. Love requires loving the other _____

Love must accept & relate to the other _____ not _____

b. Obeying Jesus is the _____ loving him

Our lack of _____ exposes a lack of _____

IV. The Holy Spirit teaches us to _____ Jesus

a. He is the spirit _____

b. He _____ within us

b. He is the source _____ and _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. In John 14:16 Jesus tells us, *“I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.”*
 - a. In speaking of “another” helper, Jesus is clearly referring to himself as the first helper. How are we to understand Jesus and his ministry to us as a helper?
 - b. The word the Jesus used that is translated “*another*,” means “*another of the same kind*.” Why did Jesus choose this word? In what ways is the Holy Spirit a helper of the same kind to Jesus?
 - c. When Jesus calls the Holy Spirit a helper, what does he mean? How is the Holy Spirit our helper?

2. In John 14:15-26 Jesus teaches us about the Holy Spirit, and about the importance of our relationship with him. Many have pointed out that the Holy Spirit is by far the least understood person of the Trinity.
 - a. Do you agree that the Holy Spirit is the least emphasized and least understood person of the Trinity? If so, why do you think this is?
 - b. What did you learn about the Holy Spirit from Jesus’ teaching in John 14?
 - c. In John 14:17 Jesus calls the Holy Spirit “the Spirit of truth.” What does this mean? What does it mean to relate to the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of truth?

3. In John 14:15 Jesus taught, *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”* What is he teaching us in this statement?
 - a. In just about any human relationship this statement would be seen as inappropriate, if not offensive. You would never say this to your spouse. It would be seen as not only an improper test of our love, but also as an unloving demand of the person asking for this obedience. Why is this appropriate, fitting, and loving for Jesus to say to us?
 - b. In this message Pastor Mike said that Jesus is not teaching that love and obedience are the same thing. He is teaching that love should be the motive for obedience. Why is this an important distinction? What is the difference between those two concepts?
 - c. Is it always accurate to say that if we have a lack of obedience to God’s word, it’s because we are lacking in love for God? Explain your answer.
 - d. If our problem is a lack of obedience, we can always work on our self-discipline and try harder. But if our lack of obedience is just the symptom, and our real problem is a lack of love for God, how do we solve that problem? How do we engender more love?

4. In his message, Pastor Mike said that truly loving someone means that we must love, accept, and relate to them as who they really are, and not as we want them to be.
 - a. What does he mean by this? Is this a principle that is always true in all relationships; why or why not? Can you think of examples in human relationships where you see this truth illustrated?
 - b. What does it mean to love, accept, and relate to Jesus as he really is? How do people try to relate to Jesus as they want him to be? How can you know if you are accepting, relating to, and loving Jesus for who he is, or for who you want him to be?

5. In John 14:23 Jesus teaches us, *“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.”* What does Jesus mean when he promises that he will *“come to him and make our home with him?”*