

“The Source: Holy Spirit: Presence”

John 14:15-21, 25-27

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Rev. Dave Baldridge

Palm Harbor United Methodist Church, Palm Harbor, Florida

Perhaps you have played it as a child. Perhaps your children have played the game. One person is “it” and they cover their eyes and count as everyone else hides. I’ll count to a hundred and keep my eyes closed and see if I can find you. Ah, but you fool them. You count... “1, 2, skip a few...99, 100!” Ready or not here I come. Of course that game is xxxx “Hide and Seek.” People try to get home without being tagged. Once a player is found or if you give up and can’t find anybody you may remember the phrase, “Olly olly oxen free.” A variation of I think German that means “All in, All in, Everybody out there all in free.” Sometimes I think our relationship with the Holy Spirit is like Hide and Seek. We feel like He is hiding...and yet we are seeking. And yet...Ready or not here HE comes!!! The Holy Spirit is here...the Holy Spirit is present always has been, always will be.

I mentioned in the Direct from Dave email this week that at times I’ve been sick and look just to see if Sarah is there. There have been times when she’s not in the room, and I have said, “Sarah can you come in here for just a minute.” Just knowing she’s there besides me comforts me. Often she grabs my hand to let me know she’s there.

Well this week roles got reversed a little. Sarah had surgery on Wednesday. While in pain as they were poking and prodding trying to put in an IV she grabbed my hand. She squeezed my hand tight, tighter, ok...my fingers or turning red tight. They finally put the IV in and she kept squeezing my hand...I mean death grip squeeze. I finally said, “Uh Sarah, you can stop now.” On Thursday, the day after her surgery she read the Direct from Dave about grabbing of hands and she said, “You know maybe we need to grab the Holy Spirit’s hand and not let go!” I love my wife!!!!

Beloved this week I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit as I knew you were interceding and praying for us during Sarah’s hospital stay. I am happy to report a successful surgery and we arrived home yesterday afternoon at 2:30. She is now on the road to recovery. We want to thank you for your prayers and support.

I thank the Holy Spirit for His presence, support, comfort and care. We will talk more about that in 2 weeks as we finish the series: The Source: Holy Spirit---Purpose. Next week, Pentecost Sunday we will talk about The Source: Holy Spirit---Power.

In our scripture that was read Jesus is giving some final words to His disciples. In **verses 16-17**

**<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,  
<sup>17</sup> 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.**

Notice the word Helper. The Greek word is Paraclete. Some translations use the word Helper, or counselor, or advocate, or comforter, or helping presence.

What is meant by “another” helper? The Holy Spirit a person of the Trinity of God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit....3 in One, has always been present. We mentioned last week of Old Testament scriptures. Jesus, the physical person of the Godhead was going away and was sending the Holy Spirit person of the Godhead to be with us and in us.

This word Paraclete... literally means “called to be along side of.” Now get the full meaning of that. Jesus the Son asks God the Father to send God the Spirit to be along side of us. He is called to be with us. With us for how long? Xxxxxx “To be with you forever.”

You could see Jesus. Jesus says the world won’t see Him or know Him---that is the Holy Spirit. Look closely at that last phrase---You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. Where is the Holy Spirit? In you and with you!!!!

The Holy Spirit is in us. The One who created the world. God is with us. Here how John says it in **1 John 4:4 My dear children, you come from God and belong to God. You have already won a big victory over those false teachers, for the Spirit in you is far stronger than anything in the world. The Message**

Greater is He that is in you than He that is in the world. Think on that. Just think on that. You have a big victory....the Holy Spirit is far stronger than anything....than what....ANYTHING in the world. Woo-hoo!!!!

Ralph Waldo Emerson, the poet said, “What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”

Change to “compared to WHO lies within us.” The Holy Spirit is IN us!

**<sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.**

MY peace...not as the world gives. The world not giving a whole lot of peace. Jesus through the Holy Spirit gives peace not of this world...you might say it is out of this world!!!

Do not have troubled hearts. Do not have afraid hearts. It is hard when we don’t see Him?

I’ve asked my self---are you here? The answer He gave--- “Why wouldn’t I be?”

Do we get in the Holy Spirit’s way? Do we ignore His presence.

With sunny skies I can see my shadow. I move, the shadow moves. There are days I don’t see my shadow. It’s cloudy the sun is not shining. Now hold it...think about that. The Sun doesn’t have an on and off switch. The sun always shines. Now clouds/weather gets in the way, but beyond those clouds the sun is shining.

The SON Jesus always shines. The SON is shining. Are you with me? xxxxxThe Holy Spirit is always there even in the dark times.

We are not alone in this world.  
 We do not struggle alone.  
 We do not grieve alone.  
 We do no fight alone.

And yes we are in a fight. A spiritual fight.

### **Ephesians 6:12 Modern English Version (MEV)**

**<sup>12</sup>For our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.**

I've found something that the following varied people have in common:

Alicia Keys, Andy Williams, Aretha Franklin, Barry Manilow, David Phelps, Doris Day, Elvis Presley, Englebert Humperdink, Frank Sinatra, Glen Campbell, Johnny Cash, Josh Groban, Olivai Newton-John, Patti Labelle, PINK FLOYD, Ray Charles, Tom Jones, Susan Boyle, Trisha Yearwood, and Jerry Lewis. In fact 75,000 fans sang this same song Wednesday night in the "football" (soccer) game of Liverppol vs. Sydney FC. Hours after the attack in Machester. It has been Liverpools theme song since the 1960's.

You see it is a song written actually in 1945 by Rodgers and Hammerstein for the musical Carousel. I know it because Jerry Lewis, from 1964-2010 would close out the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon for Muscular Dystrophy with this song....yes the song "You'll Never Walk Alone."

#### "You'll never walk alone"

When you walk through a storm hold your head up high  
 And don't be afraid of the dark.  
 At the end of a storm is a golden sky  
 And the sweet silver song of a lark.  
 Walk on through the wind,  
 Walk on through the rain,  
 Tho' your dreams be tossed and blown.  
 Walk on, walk on with hope in your heart  
 And you'll never walk alone,  
 You'll never, ever walk alone.

Walk on, walk on with hope in your heart

And you'll never walk alone,  
You'll never, ever walk alone.

We all have that in common today....we never ever walk alone. The Holy Spirit is with us.

Here is one of those classic preacher stories. And I may have shared it before. A traveling evangelist always put on a grand finale at his revivals.

When he was to preach at the church, he would secretly hire a small boy to hide in the balcony with a dove in a cage. Toward the end of his sermon, the preacher would shout for the Holy Spirit to come down, and the boy hidden above would dutifully release the dove.

At one revival meeting, however, nothing happened when the excited preacher called for the Holy Spirit to descend. He again raised his arms and exclaimed, "Come down, Holy Spirit!" Still, no sign of the dove. The preacher then heard the anxious voice of the small boy call down from above, "Sir, a yellow cat just ate the Holy Spirit. Shall I throw down the yellow cat?"

Oh come down Holy Spirit. Come down Holy Spirit. Your presence Lord. To be overcome by you presence Lord. Flood this place...fill the atmosphere.

Let us become more aware of His presence.