

SERMON NOTES

Reason to Believe: Never Alone
John 14:15-31

2 Timothy 1:7 is a verse we often quote to inspire faithfulness in fellow believers. “For God has not given us a spirit of timidity (fear), but of power and love and discipline.” We really need these words today! As we face challenges to our faith and faithfulness, we cannot live with power, love, and discipline on our own. In John 14, Jesus continues to comfort and embolden a shaken and uncertain group of disciples. As sovereign God, Jesus knew that His death and resurrection would alter everything. His followers would find their faith and faithfulness challenged in ways they could never imagine. Jesus promised His disciples they would never be alone, the indwelling Holy Spirit would enable them to live faithfully.

Key thought: As a believer, you are never alone, the Holy Spirit is present and at work to enable you to live a faithful Christian life.

THERE IS A DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOVE FOR JESUS AND OBEDIENCE TO JESUS!
(vs. 15, 21, 23-25, 31)

YOU ARE NEVER ALONE AS A BELIEVER
(vs. 16-20, 25-26)

Notice the three prepositions used to describe the Spirit’s relation to the believer.

- With you (*μετά*)
- By you (*παρά*)
- In you (*ἐν*)

A. The Holy Spirit’s presence is confirmation you belong to Christ.

“However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.” *Romans 8:9*

“In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise.” *Ephesians 1:13*

B. The Holy Spirit’s presence is permanent. (v. 16)

“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.” *John 14:16*

“Do not quench the Spirit.” *1 Thessalonians 5:19*

C. The Holy Spirit’s presence and power is necessary for you to live a faithful Christian life. (vs. 25-26)

- He governs (Galatians 5:22-23)
- He guides (John 16:13-14; John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 12:3)
- He gifts (1 Corinthians 12)

Take away:

“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.” *Ephesians 5:18*

“To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be empowered and controlled by the Spirit, to experience renewal, obedience, boldness to witness and share the gospel, and freedom from the power of sin (Acts 2:4; 4:8; 4:31, 7:55; 9:17; 13:9; Romans 15:13). It is to exhibit the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23). But to have the Holy Spirit is the mark of all born-again Christians. You can know you have the Holy Spirit if you are, in fact, a follower of Jesus Christ.” ^[1]

^[1] <https://www.gotquestions.org/have-the-Holy-Spirit.html>