

Series: A Spirited Life, # 6

The Spirit of the Advocate

John 15:26

The Greek word 'paraclete' is translated here as advocate, one who helps, who intercedes for another. Jesus prophesies to his disciples that when he leaves them to return to heaven, God manifest among them – the Holy Spirit, will stand alongside, and help, and be a defender.

In what specific ways do you need, right now, the Holy Spirit to stand alongside and defend?

Can you name personalities in the Bible whose friends deserted them, failed to defend or advocate in a hard moment?

Responses to having the living God as our advocate:

1) Praise

2) Hope

3) Advocate for others

Reflection:

Who are the defenseless and unprotected in my circle of relationships?

In what practical ways can I be an advocate for them?

“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father – the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father – he will testify about me.” **John 15:26**

“Do not exploit the poor because they are poor, and do not crush the needy in court, for the Lord will take up their case and will exact life for life.” **Proverbs 22:22-23**

“Even now my witness is in heaven; my advocate is on high. My intercessor is my friend as my eyes pour out tears to God; on behalf of a man he pleads with God as one pleads for a friend.” **Job 16:19-21**

“I called on your name Lord, from the depths of the pit. You heard my plea, do not close your ears to my cry for relief. You came near when I called you, and you said: Do not fear. You, Lord, took up my case; you redeemed my life.” **Lamentations 3:55-58**

“Contend Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take up shield and armor; arise and come to my aid.” **Psalms 35:1-2**

“Peter declared: Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you. And all the other disciples said the same.” **Matthew 26:35**

“At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength. I was delivered from the lion’s mouth.” **2 Timothy 4:16-17**