

Sermon Notes:

December 13, 2020 Sun. AM

“God’s Unopened Gift”

John 14:16-33

A. Why Was the Gift Given?

1. To help us to believe (John 14:29).
2. To enable us to resist temptation (John 14:30 & 16:33b).
3. To show us Jesus (John 14:31).

B. What does the Gift Do?

1. The Holy Spirit teaches us (John 14:25-26 & 16:13).
2. The Holy Spirit reminds us (John 14:25-26 & 16:14-15).
3. The Holy Spirit gives peace (John 14:27 & 16:33a).

C. How Do We Open God’s Gift?

1. We need to accept Him (14:16-22; 16:7; Matt. 10:3; Mark 3:18).
2. We need to love God (14:23; 16:27; 1 John 4:4).
3. We need to obey God (14:24).

NEXT STEPS

- Do you want a fresh encounter with God and His peace in your life?
- Have you allowed the Holy Spirit to take over your life?
- Personalize this prayer = “God the Spirit, have your way in us. Shine your light on the secret sins of our hearts. Equip us for tasks that are too large for us. Make us glad in what delights you. Intercede for us and open our eyes to rightly understand the Word of Truth. Amen.” [New City Catechism]

The Holy Spirit

What do we believe about the Holy Spirit?

That he is God, co-eternal with the Father and the Son, and that God grants him irrevocably to all who believe in Jesus.

John 14:16-17 Jesus said: "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever, the Spirit of truth. You know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."

How does the Holy Spirit help us?

The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, comforts us, guides us, gives us spiritual gifts and the desire to obey God; and he enables us to pray and to understand God's Word.

Ephesians 6:17-18 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

Prayer: God our Advocate, we thank you for sending your Spirit to live in us. Thank you that he chastens and disciplines, strengthens and comforts us. Holy Spirit, have your way in us. Shine your light on the secret sins of our hearts. Equip us for tasks that are too large for us. Make us glad in what delights you. Intercede for us and open our eyes to rightly understand the Word of truth. And this Advent, we thank you for the words of the angel: "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." (Matt. 1:20) Amen.