

THE MISSION IS STILL THE SAME

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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Jesus commissioned His disciples to go forth and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing and teaching them to obey everything He commanded. He claimed to be with them always even to the end of the age (Mt.28:19-20). In response to the anxious disciples, He said: "Do not let your hearts be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in me" (Jn.14:1-12). Further, He assured them that He would send the Holy Spirit to guide them in continuing His earthly ministry. Hence, the Holy Spirit as the Advocate is our helper and comforter who guides our way, leads us to the truth and assures us a life attuned to the will of God.

A. How the Holy Spirit Teaches us the Way, the Truth, and the Life:

1. The Holy Spirit as a Helper. The Holy Spirit assists us in times of need. He puts a new heart in us and gives us courage when we feel lost and discouraged. He makes us more like Christ by renewing our minds convicting us of our sins, and leading/urging us to repentance. On our end, we should accept God's forgiveness after confession, help ourself receive God's grace. Helping ourself enables us to assist others through witnessing, thus realizing our mission. Therefore, we ought to be a helper to others, having a heart for one another as guided by the Holy Spirit, a gift from God.

2. The Holy Spirit as an Advocate. An Advocate is someone who pleads for a cause, an Intercessor. When we do not know what to pray and how to pray, He comes to our aid by interceding before God on our own behalf. Hence, our mission is to intercede for our

family and others so as to receive the fullness of joy in unity with Christ Jesus.

3. The Holy Spirit as a Comforter.

A comforter is someone who sympathizes and provides comfort, instills strength, endurance and courage. Further, the Holy Spirit energizes and fills us with zest and enthusiasm. Hence, we should be open to the Holy Spirit to receive its fresh in filling and to able to resist the worldly temptations. As a result, we have become the "soldiers of Christ."

CONCLUSION:

The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, represents Jesus, acts on His behalf, and teaches us all things. He works in eliminating our sinful ways replacing them with godliness to empower us to be effective witnesses for Jesus. He speaks to us in our minds; gives us a thought or an idea; and leads us through impression in our hearts to say, do, or think according to God's will. Therefore, let us open our eyes and hearts to the will of God.

REFLECTION:

1. How will you make good use of the technology to make known the name of Jesus?
2. What should you avoid, in this age of social communication to attain godliness and be attuned to the Holy Spirit?

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