

Date: March 20th, 2022

Series: One Last Sermon

Title: Continuity in Changing Times

Primary Passage: John 14:12-31

Secondary Passage: Lk. 10:17-20

Big Question: How does the Holy Spirit comfort those who are facing changing times?

Big Idea: The Holy Spirit comforts when by manifesting Christ's work in believers, through believers, and around believers, He shows the continuity of Christ's work in changing times.

Keywords: Change, Continuity, Confusion, Spirit, Comfort, Courage.



LIFE Application Questions:

Where have you seen the work of Christ around you lately? How has your hope in the Spirit been challenged or strengthened this week?

Read John 14:21-31. What do you think are the “greater works” that Jesus is referring to? In what ways was the coming Holy Spirit meant to bring continuity to Jesus’ works on earth? Why was this supposed to be comforting to the disciples?

What does it mean to have the Holy Spirit indwelling you? Which of the “I am” statements on the reverse is most significant for you? Which is the most difficult to believe?

Do you ever disqualify yourself from participating in Christ’s ministry through the Spirit? Is there an underlying doubt that causes you to think that? What is the deception behind that doubt?

Spend some time praying to Christ through the Holy Spirit. Ask for the Spirit to give you an understanding of yourself. Ask the Spirit to show you where Christ is working, and for opportunities to step out in faith to manifest the greater works that Christ promised to those who are disciples.

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John 14:12-31

Greater Works In Christ Through the Spirit

Pastor Ben Hall - Shuswap Community Church, Salmon Arm

Jesus comforted His disciples by saying: *I am making a place for you.*

Jesus is comforting His disciples by saying: *I am making a place in you.*

What are the “**greater works**” that Jesus is referring to? Jesus considered the value of physical miracles as LESS than the value of being saved from death, judgement and hell. He was ALWAYS emphasizing that the SPIRITUAL work was GREATER than the SPIRITUAL work.

The Holy Spirit is COMFORTING in changing times:

- The presence of the Spirit IN them would be comforting.
- The work of the Spirit THROUGH them would be comforting.
- The ministry of the Spirit AROUND them would be comforting.

Because that work would be Christ’s work there would be CONTINUITY.

Through the Indwelling Holy Spirit the person of faith says:

- I am not alone
- I am understood
- I am understanding
- I am reminded
- I am adopted
- I am alive
- I am free

It would be undeniable that these works were the evidence of God with them. They were GREATER because they were going to be done by flawed people.

They would be tempted to believe that everything changed. The truth was:

- The devil had no claim - The devil would wrongfully think that he won
- Jesus was doing the Father’s will - His death would be the plan of God not Satan.
- The world would know the love of the Father because of it - It was the means of adoption

Four conditions of actually enjoying the promise:

1. We must have faith in Jesus (v. 12)
2. We must pray, (v. 13-18). Specific prayer that is in line with the love and the will of God, which is what it means to pray in Christ’s name.
3. We must love which demonstrated in trust in, and allegiance, to Christ, (v. 15)
4. We must be empowered by Christ’s own Spirit, (v. 16-17)