

# Living by His word

## COMFORTER | *The Holy Spirit's Role in Our Life*

I am amazed at how much the Holy Spirit has played a major role in my life, especially when it comes to sanctification and transformation. Jesus' main purpose just before his departure was to promote the person of the Holy Spirit.

I want to point out an interesting fact concerning **John 14:26-29**:

In **verse 26** in the NKJV scripture reads "the Father will send the Holy Spirit in my name as your teacher and reminding you of things I have spoken to you." In the **NKJV** the **Holy Spirit** is called a **helper**.

**Verse 27-29** Jesus says when the Holy Spirit comes He will bring the same peace that Jesus leaves with them, so their hearts would not be troubled or afraid.

He, the Holy Spirit, undertakes the office Christ had held while He, Christ was in the earth.

The word helper is the word para/kletos. (to call beside) called to your side, to comfort, encourage, exhort, an intercessor, advocate an aid of any kind.

Let's look at this word **helper**:

The **Authorized Version** translates it "comforter".

**Revised Standard Version** translates it "counselor".

**Revised Version** retains the word "comforter", **but** in the margin it says "advocate" or "helper" and also notes the Greek Translation "**paraclete**".

**J.B. Phillips bible** translates it "someone to stand by you".

The **Ronald Knox bible** translates it "to befriend you".

**Moffitt, Torrey and 20th century New Testament** all translate it "helper".

**Tertullian** translates it "an advocate to plead our cause".

The English word found in so many translations— "comforter"—goes all the way back to the **Wycliffe Bible**. Wycliffe used the word "comforter" however, it is associated with a meaning with which the **modern** English word "comforter" does not possess.

For example, Wycliffe translates **Ephesians 6:10** as "Be ye empowered" from the Greek: *endunamoun*—which has the same root word as *dunamis*: translated as "power" but a more accurate meaning is "achieving ability".

So, to apply this understanding of the Wycliffe translation, created in the late-1300's, early 1400's... In **modern** English, the word "comforter" has to do solely with comfort and consolation, sympathy and sorrow in times of distress. But in Wycliffe's time, it was much more closely connected with its root; the Latin word "fortis"; which means brave, strong and courageous.

So we may note to begin with, that Wycliffe translates comforter from the Greek word: "parakletos." He was not

saying that the main function of the Holy Spirit was to comfort and console in our modern sense of the word; but he was meaning that the function of the Holy Spirit was to fill a man with that spirit of power and courage which would make him triumphantly more than able to cope with life. It is a great misfortune that the narrow explanation of the word comforter has resulted in an undue narrowing of our conception of the work of the Holy Spirit.

When the Bible speaks of "the sufferings of Christ" that we, as believers are to be associated with, this refers to laying down our own: agendas, **comfort**, and our very lives; all while advancing God's kingdom on the earth. The hardships associated with the laying down one's self is necessary for spreading the good news. (**2 Cor 1:3-7**) It's very interesting to look back to certain word meanings from the early fathers of the church and how they used them in Scripture. I hope this insight is an encouragement as you rely on the Holy Spirit to triumphantly empower your everyday life!

May God Bless You,

*Pastor Jann*



# BASIC INFO

## SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning  
10:30 AM

Wednesday Evening  
7:00 PM

## CONTACT

10110 Aqueduct Dr. E.  
Tacoma, WA 98445

P.O. Box 110608  
Tacoma, WA 98411

## SOCIAL

Facebook Page **search for** "By His Word"



**"So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today."**

Matthew 6:34

word  
connection.

# New Series

Home Groups  
Begin March 10<sup>th</sup>

Scan with your phone to join



a Word Connection group

# expectations



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**All-Church Workers MTG** | Monday, March 4th @ 6:30 PM

**Mothers Of Pre Schoolers (MOPS)** | Thursday's March 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> 10 AM in GRC

**Men's Breakfast** | Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 AM in GRC

**Women's Bible Study** | Tuesday mornings, @ 10 AM in GRC

**EXPECTATIONS WORD CONNECTION SERIES** | Begins the week of March 10<sup>th</sup> - Join a homegroup today!

**Keith Trump - "Handling Hebrew" Seminar** | Registration is Required - Call our office for info on cost, date, and location



### GROW KIDS

#### New Sanctuary

We're two steps closer: the walls are painted and the carpet is installed!

### CULTIVATE YOUTH

Meet

**Wednesdays**

@7PM in GRC Sanctuary.

**THE WKND '19**  
MARCH 8-9<sup>TH</sup>