



Dear Grace Church,

Many people try to attain peace through all kinds of self help methods and books. Or they listen to self help talks that tell them “to try harder” or “do this and you’ll find peace”. But those self help efforts usually end up robbing them of their peace — it just adds to their already stressed out, worry filled life.

Peace is a “Fruit of the Holy Spirit” and it is only God that can produce peace when the pressures of life are heavy upon you. The Disciples of Jesus Christ left everything to follow Him, and they knew there was nothing to come back to when Jesus left, which could have cause some anxiety in their lives. Jesus, seeing the helpless look in their eyes, reassured them by telling them that He was going to leave them a Counselor and Comforter — the Holy Spirit of God — and they could rely on the Holy Spirit for peace when life’s situations got a little tense from time to time. And sometimes it feels like the pressures of life will never lighten up. Amen???

In John 14:26 the Bible teaches us that when the pressure is on, the Holy Spirit will show you what God wants you to do. We often face big decisions where a lot is at stake and we are not sure what to do. This can cause stress, worry, and anxiety — even second guessing our decisions — Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as your guide that will lead you to peace even in the midst of the decision making process. Pray in the Spirit! Pray the Word of God! After all, the Holy Spirit wrote the Bible.

If you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will find peace knowing that the Holy Spirit is there to Counsel you, Guide you, and Comfort you. Much of the pressure we feel in life is a result of not being filled with the Holy Spirit. If you have not experienced the Filling of the Holy Spirit — the Bible says ask — and allow the Holy Spirit to lead you to His Peace, even when the pressure is on.

I look forward to seeing you at Grace Church this week.

En Agape’,

Billy Farrar
senior pastor

