### Comfort in Troubled Times | March 13, 2022

### **Summary**

How do you live with a sense of peace and hope when the world seems to be falling down around you?

# **Scripture**

"Don't let your hearts be troubled." -John 14:6 (NLT)

"If you love me, obey my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live. When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them."

Judas (not Judas Iscariot, but the other disciple with that name) said to him, "Lord, why are you going to reveal yourself only to us and not to the world at large?"

Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me. I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. Remember what I told you: I am going away, but I will come back to you again. If you really loved me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, who is greater than I am. I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do happen, you will believe.

"I don't have much more time to talk to you, because the ruler of this world approaches. He has no power over me, but I will do what the Father requires of me, so that the world will know that I love the Father. Come, let's be going. —John 14:15-31 (NLT)

"I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." –John 16:33 (NLT)

### Let's Start

What people, things or experiences in life bring you comfort and peace of mind?

# **Gratitude and Prayer**

How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

#### Let's Talk

- 1. What concerns trouble you or cause you to fear?
- 2. Pastor Dale talked about how we can bring trouble on ourselves or our family and friends through our fears, doubts and selfishness. Have you seen examples of this? How have your fears, doubts and selfishness brought trouble?
- 3. God has given us His Spirit in order that we might learn to live a victorious life rather than a defeated one. What does Jesus reveal about the ministry of the Spirit?
- 4. Have you seen the following points from Pastor Dale's message in your experience?
  - Those who live as if there is no God, cannot recognize His presence.
  - Only those who acknowledge Jesus as Savior will receive the Spirit of God into their lives.
  - The Holy Spirit will teach all things; that means He reveals truth and He teaches us how to conduct our lives.
  - The presence of the Holy Spirit in a person's life does not bring the kind of peace the world offers, which is nothing more than an escape from reality but the peace of Christ, which allows us to live victoriously through our circumstances.
- 5. Pastor Dale shared the following strategies to following Jesus in a crazy world:
  - Keep your eyes on Jesus!
  - Stay yielded to the Holy Spirit.
  - Live every day with heaven in mind.

What other strategies can help you follow Jesus?

6. When have you been comforted by the Holy Spirit?

### Let's Act

Meditate on the following verses this week as you seek the Lord's comfort:

Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you. -Deuteronomy 31:8 (NLT)

But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength.

They will soar high on wings like eagles.

They will run and not grow weary.

They will walk and not faint. -Isaiah 40:31 (NLT)

When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.
When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown.
When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. -Isaiah 43:2 (NLT)

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. -2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NLT)

(NL1)		