

12 “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

What’s Mine is Yours

I can recall growing up, whenever my parents would buy Butter Brickle ice cream we would be ecstatic. There was no self constraint as we ate bowl after bowl after bowl until it was gone. Maybe that’s why my parents didn’t buy it too often, because it didn’t last. We are starting to have miniature wars in our household over favorite foods. When one child goes to get some flavored chicken wings from the freezer, he finds that the other child has eaten them all, and so the rage ensues. That is why we have found hiding spots for chocolate and candy, otherwise they all get eaten rather quickly in our household. When Rylee brings her own food home from Chipotle she has to label it and make sure we don’t eat it.

I got to thinking about this because of the statement Jesus says, **“All that belongs to the Father is mine.”** It’s a profound statement if you think about it in human terms. ALL is MINE. Usually when we use that term “mine.” We usually use it exclusively to mean, “it’s NOT YOURS.” But that’s not what Jesus says. He isn’t trying to greedily take hold of what is the Father’s and use it for Himself, as the young man in the parable of the Prodigal Son did. He is saying that there is complete trust with all that the Father has. He holds nothing back. He gives the Son EVERYTHING - not some things. He puts everything into the Son.

Think about parents that have only one child, perhaps. They put all of their time and effort into that one child. They hope for grandchildren with that child. They pay special attention to that child. They want that child to succeed. There is no backup plan. He or she is it. If he fails or he dies, then much of their hope or their joy die with him. They put so much into him. They have to, they have no other choice. The Father shares EVERYTHING with the Son: the only begotten Son: who has been with the Father from eternity. He leaves NOTHING back.

How many times do you hear about successful businessmen NOT entrusting the business with the child, because the child has turned out to be a spoiled fool. A popular comedy came out years ago with comedian Chris Farley who is charged with trying to keep Callahan Auto Parts afloat after his father dies. He ends up doing it in spite of his foolish antics. This is not the case with Jesus. He is completely trustworthy and dependable. He will leave nothing undone. He will do everything the Father asks. The Father entrusts everything to Him. **“All that belongs to the Father is mine.”**

What does the Father have that He entrusts to the Son? You think of power and authority. Jesus performed mighty miracles, but He didn’t do them just because He wanted to. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He thanked the Father for having heard His prayer, especially to let the people know how everything He did was in conjunction with the Father. When Philip wanted Jesus to show him the Father, Jesus said, **“Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own.**

Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.” So the Father even spoke through the Son. When we see the Son, God wants us also to see the Father. The two are in fact One.

At the end of John chapter 14, Jesus then told the disciples that He was going away and then coming back to the disciples. Where was He going? To the Father. He then said, **“the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.”** This was the night that Jesus was betrayed. Jesus spoke these words after He had instituted the Lord’s Supper and he was on the way to the Garden of Gethsemane. Think of His prayer. **“Take this cup from me, yet not my will, but YOUR will be done.”** Here we see the will of the Father and the obedience of the Son. Jesus was on a mission from the Father, in complete harmony with the Father to do the most difficult thing that would have to be done: to die for the sins of the world and pay the punishment for her sins. The only way that Jesus could complete His mission and return to the Father would be through death and resurrection.

So let’s put this back in the context of our text for today. **“All that belongs to the Father is mine.”** What belongs to the Father that also belongs to the Son? His LOVE for humanity. His desire to see the world saved. The Father and the Son are on the same page. The Father wants to work through the Son. The Son wants to do what the Father commands Him to do. Why? All for the salvation of the world. The SHARING of the Father and the Son is done in order to SHARE His love with us.

So I go back to the ice cream illustration or the candy illustration. When I buy stuff that I really like I don’t want to share it with my children. I don’t like it when my hidden candy stash has been found. I don’t rejoice when my children tell me they need new shoes or they need money for something. It doesn’t mean that I don’t do it. But I don’t have endless resources either. Even if I did, I don’t know that I would want to give them access to EVERYTHING out of fear they would just end up wasting it anyway. Think of when your children might receive some birthday money, and the first thing they want to do is go and blow it on candy or video games. Think about how many times you might get a bonus and you can’t wait to spend it on stuff that you don’t need either. We aren’t as trustworthy with God’s stuff as we could be or should be. We use it for our own selfish reasons and say MINE because we want it for OURSELVES. When it comes to our giving how often do we only give what is necessary instead of giving more?

God the Father doesn’t have that type of a relationship with the Son, and for good reason! Jesus didn’t selfishly want what the Father had so He could just build a kingdom for Himself. He did it for US, to prepare a place FOR US in HEAVEN, just as the Father wanted. God loved us so much that He wanted to free us from ourselves, by giving us HIMSELF. The only way He could do this would be through the most SELFLESS act ever, by dying and paying for sins He never even committed on the cross.

As Jesus spoke about this Mission He was on from the Father, the disciples weren’t ready for it. It was too much. They couldn’t accept the fact that Jesus was going to die. They couldn’t get it on their own. So can’t forget the Third Person of the Trinity. Jesus is talking about Him throughout today’s text. Without Him, it would be like getting a brand new car but not having the key to start it. So listen again to how Jesus speaks about His important role in this whole thing.

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me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

As the Father shares all that He has and He is with the Son, the Son then sends the Spirit to make it known to YOU. He wants you to know about all that Jesus is and what He has done. The disciples needed to know that all of this dying and rising was according to God's plan to save the world. The Holy Spirit would open God's heart to humanity and let us all know how God feels about us and what the Father has done for us in Jesus. He would be the publicist or the press secretary, so to speak, for Jesus.

Think about how narrative is so important in today's day and age. What is the topic of the day? Is it immigration? Is it abortion? Is it same sex marriage? Is it Iran or Korea? Years ago there were earthquakes that caused thousands of deaths out east, and I remember that the news in America was obsessed with the price of gas. Politicians are masters of diversion when they want you to focus on one thing and not another. The devil does the same thing. The devil is constantly making accusations against God: the death and the murder and the disease: and saying to us, "If there is a god, he is cruel. If there is a god, he surely doesn't care. Actually, there is no god." He has no problem passing off these lies because we are born with our own presuppositions about who God is and how He thinks. Humanity has conjured all different kinds of gods: animals that need to be sacrificed to: petty gods that are sinful and not all powerful: ambivalent gods that don't really care what happens on earth. The American gods are gods of the mind, even within Christianity, Jesus has become the god that "I think" or "I don't think," "I believe" or "I don't believe."

So Jesus says we need the Holy Spirit to speak to us and to guide us INTO the truth. This insinuates that we are not born with the truth. We don't have the truth by nature. We need it spoken to us. Jesus said in John 14, "**the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.**" The Holy Spirit has spoken to us in the Word of God, where He defines for us who God is, who we are, and how we truly find salvation IN JESUS and through faith in Him. This is not an opinionated faith. It isn't based on your feelings. It has to do with the facts of what Jesus did for you. God's feelings for you revolve around the facts of what Jesus did for you. The Holy Spirit wants you to know this. He wants you to hear this. He wants you to believe this. He is the communicator, God Himself, sent by the Son and the Father: to bring you into the truth of salvation. He has spoken loudly and clearly to us already through the Prophets and the Apostles in the 66 books of the Bible.

Jesus said that the Holy Spirit **will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears.** Think again about the press secretary of the President. Press secretaries have to be very careful that they don't say something the President would disapprove of or seem to contradict what the President wants. False information could lead to divisions in the party or the country. It has happened from time to time. This isn't quite the same, but I think of how Kelly Ann Conway's husband has come under fire for speaking against President Trump while she speaks for him. Jesus says that the Holy Spirit doesn't speak on His own. He says exactly what the Father and the Son are saying and want Him to say. And what is the purpose of this? He will **guide you into all truth.** Remember what the truth is. Jesus is **the way, the truth and the life.** Why does God want to reveal the truth to us? In order to GIVE us salvation earned for us by Jesus. Jesus said in John 5:24, "**I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.**" So here again we see HOW and WHY the Triune God works together - in order to save us!

The Greeks had some interesting stories when it came to their gods. They worked against each other and went behind each other's backs. It led to chaos and bloodshed in the world as the gods lied to each other and stole from one another out of greed and lust.

What is sad is that many people have a false vision of Jesus. Some claim He had sexual relations with Mary Magdalene. Others claim He is the brother of Satan. Still others claim that we too can become our own gods and progress to divinity, because they say that's what Jesus did. There are many others that claim so many different lies in the name of our God!

But in this Bible we have the truth! Thank God that the one and only true God does not work that way. The three Persons of the Trinity have one goal - to see us in heaven. So Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit to speak the truth to us about Jesus. The Father worked through and in Jesus to bring Him to the cross in order to die for our sins. What a beautiful message! We have a God who has everything, and He wants to give it to us in Jesus. In Jesus God says to us, "What's mine is yours!" And what is His? Holiness. Perfection. Forgiveness. Salvation. Grace. Mercy. Hope.

God doesn't hide His goodness to Himself, like we tend to hide our candies. He opens up His treasures and says, "Have at it!" I think of a recent picture I saw on Facebook of a grandmother who gave her granddaughters a treasure chest of Elsa that welcomed them to adventures. Inside the box the girls were told how they would get to go to Disneyworld and eat breakfast with Cinderella! The girls were ecstatic, and the grandmother and mother smiles. In Jesus, God opens heaven to us! He shares Himself freely with us. He sees our faces, and it makes Him happy! Thank God for our Triune God who gives us what is His in Jesus. Amen.