



By Mrs. Bessie Wilbon

Lesson Background

This lesson deals with God's support for the new life. Christians are "God-factured" to love the way Jesus loved. Last week we looked at the fact that Jesus instructed His disciples to do that: (John 13:34). But how could they be sure they would always love just the way Jesus loved? One way would have been for Jesus to stick around so they could keep observing how He loved and then copy that. But fulfilling the command to love the way He loved got complicated because He immediately talked about leaving. So Jesus' disciples were perplexed.

Jesus sensed that anxiety in His followers and so He promised to send a Helper to be with them forever: "I will pray to the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever" (John 14:16).

The word another, in Greek, means "another of the same kind: Jesus promised them another comforter of the same kind that had been with them. The word Comforter means someone who stands alongside for the purpose of holding up or supporting the other person. A good translation of Comforter is "Helper".

Who was that person who had been standing alongside those disciples? It was Jesus. Then who will be the Helper of the same kind as Jesus? In verse 17 Jesus identified that Helper as the Spirit of Truth — the Holy Spirit. But who is the Holy Spirit. It is at this point in the discussion between Jesus and His disciples that we begin today's lesson.

"When I go, you will not be left all alone; I will come back to you. In a little while the world will see me no more, but you will see me; and because I live, you also will live. When the day comes, you will know that I am in my Father and that you are in me, just as I am in you. Whoever accepts my commandments and obeys them is the one who loves me. My Father will love whoever loves me; I, too, will love him and reveal myself to him. Judas (not Judas Iscariot), said, "Lord, how can it be that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?" Jesus answered him "Whoever loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love him and my Father and I will come to him and live with him. Whoever does not love me does not obey my teaching. And the teaching you have heard is not mine, but comes from the Father who sent me. I have told you this while I am still with you. The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you. Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid." (John 14:18-27)

The Lesson

There is a paradox. Jesus promised to leave, but not be absent. He promised to go away to the Father, but also to be with His people on earth. How can that happen?

It can happen because Jesus abides on earth in His people through His Spirit. When the Holy Spirit is present, God himself is present. When the Holy Spirit is present, Christ also is present. That's because the Holy Spirit is the extension of God and Christ. The good news to us today is that God is both there—in Heaven—and here, on the earth. He is just that great and powerful. Consequently, no Christian faces life alone and helpless. A new power is living inside.

In just a few hours the disciples might begin to think that Jesus' promise was very temporary because they would watch Him die on the cross. Jesus was talking about the crucifixion when He said, "Yet a little while and the world will see me no more." At His death the world would cease to see the physical Jesus. But He was speaking about the subsequent resurrection when He said, "but you will see me." The disciples would see Him after His resurrection; but more than that they would perceive His presence in the Holy Spirit who would come to be with them forever and to be their helper day by day. He was talking about His perpetuity and theirs when He said, "Because I live, you shall live also." Jesus was letting them know that His resurrection would have a personal application to them. In His resurrection they would have an assurance that (1) He remained alive to be their helper as He promised—their promised help would not stay in the tomb; (2) they would share in His eternal life.

A young artist had become dissatisfied with his work and was very discouraged. One day he borrowed the brush of a teacher, a great artist. Still there was no improvement. A fellow student observed, "It is not the master's brush you need, but the master's spirit." Isn't it true in our churches that we do not need some new technique or plan or program half so much as we need the Master's Spirit? Isn't it true in our individual lives that we do not need to learn some secrets of happy living, but only to receive the Spirit of Christ and let Him work through us.

What kind of peace does Jesus give that is different from the peace the world gives? Jesus' peace is different in at least three areas: (1) The definition of peace. The world defines peace as the absence of war. As long as we aren't in war, we are in peace. But Jesus' idea of peace is much longer. His peace also includes being in a right relationship. It's not enough not to be at each other's throats. The bigger and more important question is do we love that person? Can we fellowship with that person? Too often we have peace with someone simply because we avoid them. (2) The dimensions of peace. The world thinks of peace only in terms of people with people. But Jesus gives peace not only with other people but also with God, with self, and with the future. (3) The time frame of peace. The peace of the world is only temporary. It lasts only until the next war breaks out. Jesus' peace is to last forever.

As a fish needs to be in water to live, so a person needs to be in Christ to survive eternally. Take a fish out of water it will give in, give out, and eventually give up. The only insurance that we have for not doing the same is to be in Christ. But it's a two-way fellowship. We are in Christ and He is in us. Then we have the support we need to live out the new life.

Mount Carmel Church Members Planning To Observe "Leon C. Riddick Day"

Special To The Charlotte Post
Dr. Leon C. Riddick, pastor of Mount Carmel Baptist Church, has reached an important milestone in his life.

Dr. Riddick is celebrating his fiftieth year in the ministry, his twentieth year at Mount Carmel and the fortieth anniversary of his marriage to his wife, Micki.

Mount Carmel members are planning to observe Leon C. Riddick Day on April 21 and are inviting the total community to join in the celebration which has as its theme "A Century and a Decade." The observance will begin with Sunday School. Dr. John White of Asheville will deliver the sermon at the 11 a.m. worship service. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall.

The highlight of the day will be a banquet and program at 7 p.m. at the Charlotte Civic Center (Convention Center). Persons wishing to make reservations (\$10.00 per person) may do so by mailing a check to Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 3201 Tuckasee Road, Charlotte, N.C. 28208. Checks should be made payable to Mount Carmel Baptist Church.

Since coming to Mount Carmel in 1965, Dr. Riddick has seen an increase in giving from \$18,000 a year to more than \$360,000 per year. More



Dr. Leon C. Riddick
Noted theologian

than \$82,000 was contributed to missions alone last year. The church co-sponsors a school and nutrition center in Haiti and conducts many local ministries.

A noted theologian and educator, Dr. Riddick has served in pastorates in Wallace, Rose Hill and Lake Lure, North Carolina and in Summit, New Jersey. He is a former director of the Department of Christian Education and Training for the General Baptist

State Convention and a former director of development and Public Relations at Shaw University. He currently serves as extension seminary instructor for inservice ministries under the auspices of Shaw University and the Baptist State Convention.

A past president of American Baptist Churches of the South and the Hampton Interdenominational Ministers Conference, Dr. Riddick is also a dynamic civic leader. He is chairman of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee, president of the Biddeville Housing Corporation, member of the Citizens Criminal Justice Committee of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, the Mayor's Crime Commission and numerous boards of local, state and national organizations.

For additional information about Leon C. Riddick Day, persons may call the church office telephone 394-3525.



Willie Mack has what it takes to be a noted employee of Coca-Cola. He is now Supervisor of the Warehouse Division and has been employed by Coke for 22 years. (Mack's photo and position was omitted from the Post's February 21 special edition on Coca-Cola.)

The Post is a Perfect Gift

60 Companies And Agencies Attend S.C. State Job Fairs

Special To The Post

ORANGEBURG, SC—Job Fairs or Career Days at high schools, colleges and universities are not new, but often a determining factor in a student's life.

South Carolina State College students, dressed as if going to an interview, toured the aisles at Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center stopping at first one station and then another talking about jobs in a specific area. They listened attentively, picked up literature and in some cases lined up interviews for a future date.

There were school districts from across the state represented, and state and federal agencies. AT&T, Quaker Oats and other companies represented other segments of career options.

"More than 60 companies and agencies were represented," said Marie Hamberg, director of the Career Development Center at the college. Hamberg, an alumna of the college, pointed out that many alumni were present and that she thought this helped students relate to some options they previously might have overlooked.

While the fair held a relaxed atmosphere with balloons strung overhead, there was a purposefulness in the faces of students. There was an exchange of information among the student body as they

grouped to discuss where they had been and what impressions were made. There were some gleeful moments when students discovered that "people out there" were interested in what they knew and where they wanted to go. In some instances, students made decisions for additional courses which had not previously been considered to fulfill career needs.

While Job Fairs may not be new, students still find them informative, helpful and just maybe a career for the future.

Solid Brass Prices Have Never Been Lower

Over 70% off
regular retail price

Solid Brass Desk Lamps

\$26.88
Reg. \$98.88

Tube Shade Shell Shade

SHOP EARLY - QUANTITIES LIMITED

PEGGY HOUSTON'S
Lamps & Accessories

Where Elegance Doesn't Have To Be Expensive

1515 E. Fourth Street ■ Carmel Commons Hwy. 51 & Carmel Rd.
Both Stores Open Daily 11-6, Closed Sundays

High School "Athlete of the Week"

Each Week In The Post

You Haven't Shopped For A Fur Until You've Been To Our Store

WE MAKE THE FINEST NEW FURS AFFORDABLE LAY-A-WAY NOW FOR NEXT WINTER

- Our Prices are Lower. We guarantee it. Our regular price will be lower than the competition even where theirs are on sale. Compare prices and don't be confused by so called "percent off" sales.
- Our selection is Greater. Hundreds of new fur coats to choose from.
- Our styling is the Best - Current styles from famous designers in Europe & U.S.—We'll make a coat for you.
- Our quality is the Finest—All coats completely guaranteed for two years.
- Our Service is Unhatchable—Master furrier and expert finisher on our staff.

BLUE FOX JACKETS	295.00	FOX BOA'S - ALL COLORS	395.00
BLUE FOX FULL LENGTH	995.00	CRYSTAL FOX JACKET	495.00
INDIGO FOX VEST	395.00	SHADOW FOX JACKET	1295.00
FEATHERED FOX STROLLER	695.00	SILVER FOX FULL LENGTH	3495.00

Also see our large selection of reconditioned furs at even greater savings.

Vintage Girl Furs

123 East 5th St. (across from Belk) Uptown • Mon.-Sat. 10a.m.-5p.m.

Temple Chapel Baptist Church's PRE-SPRING CRUSADE

March 10th Thru 15th 7:30 Nightly

Special Guests
Various Churches
From The Charlotte Area

Nightly Feature
Temple Chapel's Mass Choir
Temple Combined Hymn Choir

Old Fashioned "Prayer Services"
Conducted by Local Deacons

PUBLIC INVITED

900 September Lane Charlotte, N.C. Rev. Gene E. Gilmore, DD Minister

Dr. A.E. Campbell
Crusade Leader

Rev. Gene E. Gilmore
Host pastor