

HE COMFORTS AND ENCOURAGES

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive him because it doesn't see him or know him. But you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you.

(John 14:16-17)

“Sometimes we hear the expression “that is not my forte”. When a person says that, he is declaring that he is weak in a certain area. ‘Forte’ is used popularly as a synonym for strength. In biblical terms it is the Holy Spirit who is our forte. He is the One from whom we derive our strength.” (R.C. Sproul)

The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and coheirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. (Romans 8:16-17)

- I am a child of God (John 1:12)
- God is pleased with how He made me (Genesis 1:31)
- I am God's masterpiece (Ephesians 2:10)
- I am a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Christ calls me friend (John 15:15)

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, since he is not the shepherd and doesn't own the sheep, leaves them and runs away when he sees a wolf coming. The wolf then snatches and scatters them. This happens because he is a hired hand and doesn't care about the sheep...My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.” (John 10:11-13; 27-30)

Reflection Question:

Where do you need God's strength?

Scripture from the CSB unless noted.