

Good morning Live Oak First Baptist Church

What a joy and privilege to be a child of the most high God. When someone has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, they have the assurance of His presence, promises, and power. The words of our Lord Jesus in John 14:26-27 reassures us that we have His peace. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." This a great truth to claim today with all that is happening in our world. Jesus is the answer to our troubled and sin sick world. Jesus speaks peace to our hearts and is the only one that can truly remove our fears. Let's remember that God loves us, provides for us, and desires for us to worship Him today.

Remember the words of John in his letter in I John 4:4 "Ye are of God, little children and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." We are overcomers because of the Christ that lives within us through the presence of the Holy Spirit. We can experience that inner witness of the Holy Spirit to our spirit. What does this really mean? It means we can enjoy the quiet confidence given by the spirit that we have indeed passed from death to life. It means we can approach the mighty Creator of the vast universe and refer to Him as "Abba Father" (Romans 8:15). "Abba" is a personal and intimate term for one's father. It is almost akin to our modern title "Daddy" or "Papa." Isn't it wonderful to know we can approach the throne of grace with a holy boldness (Hebrews 4:16) and can also experience the blessing of knowledge that the Father will hear and answer our prayers (I John 3:22)?

Praise the Lord for the witness of the Spirit in our spirits. Jesus said, in John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." I encourage you to have faith in God because He provides the presence, promises, and power for you through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I John 5:4-5 declares "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"

I pray you have a blessed day and keep believing Jesus who calms our fears and gives us peace.

Your Pastor,
Brother Donald