

## Would have passed by them (As though he would have gone further)

I have learned that we will experience victory and success to the degree we get help from the Lord. Some people get more help from the Lord and the Holy Spirit than others, not because it is the Holy Spirit who chooses who He responds to more than the other, but He responds to us based on how much we acknowledge Him and bring Him into our lives. If we want our steps to be directed by the Lord, there are things we must do. It does not happen automatically.

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.”

—John 14:26

The Holy Spirit is called the comforter. This word “comforter” comes from the Greek word “Parakletos,” which is from two Greek words (Para, which means “besides”) and another word “Kaleo,” which means “call.” This means “called to one’s side, especially called to one’s aid”—Thayer’s Dictionary. The Amplified Version defines comforter as “Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, Standby.”

The point I want to make is that **the Holy Spirit helps some people more than others because we allow Him to and ask for His help as the helper.** You determine to what degree you get help from the Lord—more or less. This underscores a greater need to acknowledge Him.

Mark 6:47 And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land. 48 And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and **would have passed by them.** 49 But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: 50 For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, **Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.**

- a) The same point is being made here about the disciples. Jesus was coming toward them but would have passed by them had they not desired Him. He was not going to force Himself on them. They had to draw upon Him and invite Him in for Him to help them. When they did, it changed their whole situation.

Luke 24:28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though **he would have gone further.**

- a) All this time, Jesus was with them and talking with them, yet they could not recognize Him. Why? But their eyes were holden that they should not know him (Luke 24:16). The reason was because He was in another form (Mark 16:12), and it took faith to recognize Him. They had to know Him by faith, not by their physical senses. He was having a spiritual body that had to be discerned by faith.
- b) It is interesting that Jesus made as though He would have gone further. These men had to ask Him to stay with them. He was not going to force Himself on them. This is similar to what happened in Mark 6:48. He will walk by us if we do not put a demand on Him and invite Him in. God does not force Himself on us. He is gentle and will not force His way into our lives.
  - i) If we do not want Him to be a part of us, He will walk right by. If we need and ask for His help, He will gladly intervene.
  - ii) The Lord has to be invited. If He is not invited, He will not force Himself in.

29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

- a) When they constrained Him to abide with them, then only did He do so. Jesus would not have tarried with them if they did not ask Him to abide with them.
- b) We need to compel or desire the Lord to spend time with us, or else He will leave us alone. He will walk by unless He is involved.