



“Not as the World gives.....”

Today's Gospel Jesus says, "Whoever loves me will keep my word...." The love he means is not an emotional high that might pass away under stress or with time. Instead, this love is a strong determination to take Jesus' teaching to heart and to live by them. Keeping the words Jesus taught is a sign of our understanding of the Gospel message. But we cannot live the life Jesus has called us to on our own. We have heard the gospel and we have a sense what he expects of us.

Try forgiving an enemy... turning the other cheek... feeding the hungry... confronting little and big injustices, etc., not just once, but over and over. These

are things that, left to our own resources, are impossible to do. So, as he speaks to his friends for the last time, Jesus is making sure he leaves them - and us - what we need to fulfill his teachings and experience his new life deep within ourselves and in the community. He has looked ahead to our well being and has made sure that we will always have what it takes to be a Christian community in an ever-changing world.

He promises to send The Spirit, who will come, he tells us, "in my name;" so we will be always continue to be connected to him; the Spirit will "teach you everything and remind you," - a comfort to disciples who tend to forget what Jesus taught and who need help applying his words to new life situations. It is the Spirit who will feed and guide the community - who will gift the

community with empowerment and direction.



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