

## **A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE**

### **THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES YOU**

Luke 12:11-12 “And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.”

One of the two things our culture says you should never talk about is religion. Religion is a subject that can quickly produce heat that as you handle it can burn your fingers. On the other hand Jesus said to His disciples, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8) Jesus told them to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20) But He also told them they were to wait until He gave them His Holy Spirit. (Acts 1:5)

Knowing what to say about Jesus can be very difficult. This is especially true when you are being threatened by those who want nothing to do with Jesus. What should you say? How much should you say? When you are in the presence of those you know do not agree with your Christian faith, isn't it best to remain silent rather than stir up an argument or even worse put your personal safety on the line?

As a believer in Jesus, you are never on your own. Jesus promises “. . . I am with you always even unto the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20) In today's devotional verse He says not if, but when you are brought before those in authority because you have been witnessing your faith in Jesus, you should not be afraid. He promises in these verses, “. . . the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.”

Jesus is not suggesting the Holy Spirit will enable you to orally defend yourself and save your neck. The Holy Spirit will, however, fill you with needed words to speak so you clearly articulate your faith and give glory to the name of Jesus and your heavenly Father. The Holy Spirit will guide you to speak the truth of God's word.

God will fill you with His Spirit for you to give a Gospel witness to those who need to know the unconditional love God has for them through His Son Jesus.

Prayer: Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord, With all Your graces now outpoured  
On each believer's mind and heart; Your fervent love to them impart.  
Lord, by the brightness of Your light In holy faith Your Church unite;  
From ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue This to Your praise, O Lord, our God, be sung:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, holy Light, guide divine, Now cause the Word of life to shine.  
Teach us to know our God aright And call Him Father with delight.  
From ev'ry error keep us free; Let none but Crist our master be  
That we in living faith abide, In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, holy Fire, comfort true, Grant us the will Your work to do  
And in Your service to abide; Let trials turn us not aside.  
Lord, by Your pow'r prepare each heart, And to our weakness strength impart  
That bravely here we may contend, Through life and death to You, our Lord,  
ascend. Alleluia, alleluia!  
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