**Always Welcome**

by

Mike Nappa

bestselling author of *It Doesn’t Have to Be This Hard*

Check this out:

When you became Christian you finite soul mystically, irrevocably merged with the infinite Spirit of Jesus. As John recorded, “He lives with you and will be in you” (John 14:17).

It’s impossible to overstate the enormity of this supernatural residency!

The Holy Spirit is no passive, neutral “guest” within your soul. Christ’s ever-present Spirit is dramatically active, constantly nurturing new life within you, communicating his never-ending love for you, guaranteeing the promises he made to you.

Perhaps best of all, the Holy Spirit living in you is proof that you are always welcome in God’s presence.

*Always*.

Let me share with you the way Charlie Brown once (unintentionally) illustrated this theological concept for me. I found this in an old *Peanuts* comic strip by Charles M. Schulz some years ago, and have never let go of it since.

Standing outside his father’s workplace, Charlie Brown explains the way things are to his snobby friend, Violet. “See this?” he says to her, pointing toward a plate glass window:

This is my dad’s barber shop. He works in there all day long. He has to deal with all sorts of people. Some of them get kind of crabby…but you know what? I can go in there anytime and no matter how busy he is, he’ll always stop and give me a big smile.[[1]](#endnote-1)

This, to me, is a perfect picture of the always-welcome aspect of Christ’s indwelling Holy Spirit—and the kind of intimacy we continue to experience from Christ with every prayer we pray, each day of our lives. “No matter how busy he is, he’ll always stop…” Why? It’s simple really: *God is always near*. And so when you call out, the indwelling Holy Spirit is always willing to stop…to listen…to help. This is your benefit as recipient of the gift of God—the Person and presence of the Holy Spirit in every moment of your life.

As the Apostle Paul taught us:

“*We know*

*how dearly God loves us,*

*because*

*he has given us*

*the Holy Spirit*

*to fill our hearts*

*with*

*his love”*

(Romans 5:5 nlt)

\_\_\_\_\_

Adapted and reprinted with permission from *It Doesn’t Have to Be This Hard* by Mike Nappa. © 2025 Nappaland Communications Inc. Published by Whitaker House Publishers. All rights reserved.

1. Charles M. Schulz. *You Don’t Look 35, Charlie Brown* (New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1985) 70. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)