

I NEEDED AN ADVOCATE

MAY 17,2020

JOHN 14:15-21

When I was in Junior High School, I and twenty-two other classmates, got in trouble with the County Sheriff. We went into his cabin and ate all his food. We got caught. I had to go to the sheriff's office and report to him for six weeks and pay him \$5.19 for my share of the food. Nobody else had to do this. The first time I went to the sheriff's office, my Pastor, Gerhardt Huggenvik, came with me. My Pastor said to the sheriff, "I want you to save this boy." I did not know that the Sheriff and Pastor were personal friends and that all three of us were members of First English Lutheran Church. I did not know then what an advocate I had with my Pastor. My advocate told the sheriff, "save this boy." The sheriff did what the Pastor asked. I thought my Pastor was the most powerful person in Faribault.

Jesus says to his disciples before he leaves them, "I will not leave you orphaned. I will give you an advocate." He is talking about the Holy Spirit. He is talking about himself. The Holy Spirit is his spirit, the Christ of our faith. Jesus says, "In a little while, the world will no longer see me but you will see me."

The coronavirus can make us feel like I did at age 13, alone, afraid, abandoned by God. I was sent an advocate. We pray today for God's same guidance.

Prayer: Dear Lord, send us advocates in medicine, government, our local communities, and families, to guide us through this crisis. Dear Lord, be our guide and advocate through all and in all. Give us hope for today and our future. Amen.