

CALLED NEAR

**New Testament verses
with
the Greek word *Parakaleo*
and its derivatives**

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New Testament Verses Containing ‘Call Near’

Introduction

*I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another** Helper, that He may be with you forever.*
John 14:16 NASB

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. John 14:26

But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of me. John 15:26

But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I go now away, the Helper shall not come unto you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. John 16: 7

These are the verses that first got my attention. “Helper” is also translated “Comforter” and “Counselor.” The Greek word for Helper or Comforter is *paraklatos*. It is used these four times to describe the Holy Spirit. But it is also translated “Advocate” in this verse referring to Jesus:

My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 John 2:1

I was taught that *paraklatos* means “the One who is called near (to help us)”
I discovered that it could also mean “the One who calls us near (to God).”

Curiously, the Strong’s Concordance doesn’t give a root word for *paraklatos*. But *parakaleo*, a verb meaning “call near,” and *paraklesis*, the noun derived from *parakaleo*, are worth considering.

My next discovery was 2 Corinthians 1:3-7, which contains the most occurrences of *parakaleo* and *paraklesis*. Before I got to know this passage, I thought all those “comforts” were redundant. This is powerful when “comfort” is read as “calling near.” The Father calls us near, too, and we are empowered to call others near in the same way He does.

Note that in v.4, “affliction” refers to pressure on many levels, so this verse applies to everyday life as well as extreme situations. It is the same Greek word as “tribulation.”

These things I have spoken to you, that I Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage (be of good cheer); I [Jesus] have overcome the world.

John 16:33

2 Corinthians 1:3,4

3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and God of all comfort;*

4 *Who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*

There are 144 verses containing *parakaleo* and its related words. Those verses can be divided up into three groups of three to make them easier to explore.

There are three levels according to how the verses relate to the Holy Spirit calling us near.

Level 1 verses are insightful when “call near” is substituted for the English words.

Level 2 verses are useful for considering the connection to being called near.

Level 3 verses are the remaining ones and the “calling near” is less noticeable.

There are three general categories of English meanings within each level: comforting, encouraging, and urging.

Please see the following page for the Strong’s Concordance usage notes and numbers for the Greek words.

All of these verses are from the King James Version because it is a standard reference.

Strong's Concordance Usage Notes for *parakaleo* and words derived from it

James Strong, [“Παρακαλέω.”](#) Strong's Talking Greek and Hebrew Dictionary (WORDsearch, 2020).

Parakaleo - #3870

This is the root word, a verb

English Words used in KJV: [Total Count: 109]

beseech - 43, comfort - 23, exhort - 21, desire - 8, pray - 6, intreat - 3,
besought - 1, miscellaneous translations - 4

from <G3844> (para) and <G2564> (kaleo); to *call near*, i.e. *invite, invoke*

Paraklesis - #3874

This is the noun derived from parakaleo

English Words used in KJV: [Total Count: 29]

consolation - 14, exhortation - 8, comfort - 6, intreaty - 1

Paraklatos - #3875

Comforter / Helper / Advocate

English Words used in KJV: [Total Count: 5]

comforter - 4, advocate - 1

an *intercessor, consoler*.

The Strong's Concordance doesn't say this is derived from parakaleo, but it looks like it is.

Symparakaleo. #4837

English Words used in KJV: comfort together - 1

from <G4862> (sun) and <G3870> (parakaleo); to *console jointly*:- comfort together.

Romans 1:12 *That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.*

New Testament Verses Containing “Call Near” Level 1

This Level 1 list contains verses with more of a focus on us being called near in our relationships with God and each other.

Verses referring to the Holy Spirit as our Helper or Comforter are in the Introduction.

In the rest of the verses, “call near” can be seen as comfort, encouraging, and urging.

Some form of “call near” can easily be substituted
for the underlined words in these verses.

Comfort

Matthew 5:4 Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Romans 1:12 That is, that I may be comforted together (4837) - with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

Romans 15:4, 5 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 14:31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

2 Corinthians 1:3-7 Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

And whether we be afflicted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted *it is* for your consolation and salvation.

And our hope of you *is* steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so *shall ye be* also of the consolation.

2 Corinthians 2:7 So that contrariwise ye *ought* rather to forgive *him*, and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.

2 Corinthians 7:4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

Philippians 2:1. If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort [not parakaleo] of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

Colossians 2:2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

1 Thessalonians 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

Urge

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Romans 15:30 Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in *your* prayers to God for me;

Romans 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Corinthianes 4:13 Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world,

1 Corinthians 4:16 Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me.

2 Corinthians 2:8 Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm *your* love toward him.

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 6:1. We then, *as* workers together *with him*, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

2 Corinthians 10:1. Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence *am* base among you, but being absent *am* bold toward you:

2 Corinthians 12:8. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

Ephesians 4:1. I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

Philippians 4:2 I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

1 Timothy 5:1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat *him* as a father; *and* the younger men as brethren;

1 Peter 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.

Encourage

Acts 14:22. Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Romans 12:8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation . . .

1 Corinthians 14:3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to* edification, and exhortation, and comfort [not parakaleo].

1 Thessalonians 2:11 As ye know how we exhorted and comforted [not parakaleo] and charged every one of you, as a father *doth* his children,

1 Thessalonians 4:1 Furthermore then we beseech [not parakaleo] you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, *so* ye would abound more and more.

Titus 2:6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.

Hebrews 12:5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him.

Hebrews 3:13. But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Hebrews 12:5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him.

New Testament Verses Containing 'Call Near'

Level 2

These verses are interesting to consider in the context of calling near.

Comfort

Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Acts 15:31 *Which* when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.

Acts 16:40 And they went out of the prison, and entered into *the house of* Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

2 Corinthians 7:4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

2 Corinthians 7:6, 7 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.

2 Corinthians 7:13 Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

Ephesians 6:22 Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and *that* he might comfort your hearts.

Colossians 4:8 Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts;

1 Thessalonians 3:2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:

1 Thessalonians 3:7 Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:

Urge

Matthew 26:53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

Luke 15:28 And he [the prodigal son's brother] was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.

Acts 8:31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

Acts 9:38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring *him* that he would not delay to come to them.

Acts 11:23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

Acts 15:32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed *them*.

Acts 13:4 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

Acts 16:9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help

Acts 28:14 Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome.

Acts 28:20 For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see *you*, and to speak with *you*: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.

1 Corinthians 16:12 As touching *our* brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time; but he will come when he shall have convenient time.

1 Corinthians 16:15 I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and *that* they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)

2 Corinthians 8:6 Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also.

2 Corinthians 9:5 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as *a matter of* bounty, and not as *of* covetousness.

Hebrews 13:22 And I beseech you, brethren, suffer the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words.

Encourage

Luke 3:18 And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

Acts 11:23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

Acts 13:42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

Acts 15:32. And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed *them*.

1 Thessalonians 2:3 For our exhortation *was* not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile:

1 Timothy 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men;

1 Timothy 4:13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

1 Timothy 6:2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise *them*, because they are brethren; but rather do *them* service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

Titus 2:15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

New Testament Verses Containing ‘Call Near’

Level 3

Level 3 verses contain “parakaleo” in ways that we probably wouldn’t tend to connect with “calling near.”

Comfort

Matthew 2:18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping *for* her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

Luke 2:25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name *was* Simeon; and the same man *was* just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

Luke 6:24 But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation.

Luke 16:25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime received thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

Acts 20:12 And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

Urge

In these verses, “beseech” is more like begging. About half of these verses refer to people beseeching Jesus, so they are listed in the second half of this group.

Matthew 8:31 So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

Matthew 18:29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

Matthew 18:32 Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

Matthew 8:34 And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought *him* that he would depart out of their coasts.

Mark 5:10 And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country.

Mark 5:12 And all the devils besought him, saying, "Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them."

Mark 5:17 And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts.

Luke 8:31, 32 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.

And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them.

Acts 16:15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought *us*, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us.

Acts 16:39 And they came and besought them, and brought *them* out, and desired *them* to depart out of the city.

Acts 19:31 And certain of the chief of Asia, which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring *him* that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.

Acts 21:12 And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.

Acts 24:4 Notwithstanding, that I be not further tedious unto thee, I pray thee that thou wouldest hear us of thy clemency a few words.

Acts 25:2 Then the high priest and the chief of the Jews informed him against Paul, and besought him,

Acts 27:33, 34 And while the day was coming on, Paul besought *them* all to take meat, saying, This day is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing.

Wherefore I pray you to take *some* meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.

2 Corinthians 12:18 I desired Titus, and with *him* I sent a brother. Did Titus make a gain of you? walked we not in the same spirit? *walked we* not in the same steps?

Philemon 9, 10 *yet* for love's sake I rather beseech *thee*, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:

Hebrews 13:19 But I beseech *you* the rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

Urge, with Jesus

Could it be that people were calling Jesus near when they begged Him for help?

Matthew 8:5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeking him,

Matthew 14:36 And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.

Mark 1:40 And there came a leper to him, beseeking him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

Mark 5:18 And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him.

Mark 5:23 And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: *I pray thee*, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

Mark 6:56 And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole.

Mark 7:32 And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him.

Mark 8:22 And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him.

Luke 7:4 And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:

Luke 8:41 And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house:

Encourage

Acts 13:15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men *and* brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

2 Corinthians 8:17 For indeed he accepted the exhortation; but being more forward, of his own accord he went unto you.

Acts 2:40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

Acts 20:2 And when he had gone over those parts, and had given them much exhortation, he came into Greece,

‘Call Near’ References Only

These are all of the verses that contain parakaleo (#3870) and paraklesis (3874).

Matt 2:18	Acts 9:31	1 Cor 1:10
Matt 5:4	Acts 9:38	1 Cor 14:3
Matt 8:5	Acts 11:23	1 Cor 4:13
Matt 8:31	Acts 13:15	1 Cor 4:16
Matt 8:34	Acts 13:42	1 Cor 14:31
Matt 14:36	Acts 14:22	1 Cor 16:12
Matt 18:29	Acts 15:31	1 Cor 16:15
Matt 18:32	Acts 15:32	2 Cor 1:3-7
Matt 26:53	Acts 16:9	2 Cor 2:7
Mark 1:40	Acts 16:15	2 Cor 2:8
Mark 5:10	Acts 16:39	2 Cor 5:20
Mark 5:12	Acts 16:40	2 Cor 6:1
Mark 5:17	Acts 19:31	2 Cor 7:4
Mark 5:18	Acts 20:2	2 Cor 7:6, 7
Mark 5:23	Acts 20:12	2 Cor 7:13
Mark 6:56	Acts 21:12	2 Cor 8:4
Mark 7:32	Acts 24:4	2 Cor 8:6
Mark 8:22	Acts 25:2	2 Cor 8:17
Luke 2:25	Acts 27:33	2 Cor 9:5
Luke 3:18	Acts 27:34	2 Cor 10:1
Luke 6:24	Acts 28:14	2 Cor 12:8
Luke 7:4	Acts 28:20	2 Cor 12:18
Luke 8:31, 32	Romans 12:1	2 Cor 13:11
Luke 8:41	Romans 12:8	Eph 4:1
Luke 15:28	Romans 15:4	Eph 6:22
Luke 16:25	Romans 15:5	Phil 2:1
Acts 2:40	Romans 15:30	Phil 4:2
Acts 8:31	Romans 16:17	Col 2:2

Col 4:8	Titus 2:15
1 Thess 2:3	Philemon 7
1 Thess 2:11	Philemon 9
2 Thess 2:16	Philemon 10
1 Thess 3:2	Heb 3:13
1 Thess 3:7	Heb 6:18
1 Thess 4:1	Heb 10:25
1 Thess 4:10	Heb 12:5
1 Thess 4:18	Heb 13:19
1 Thess 5:11	Heb13:22
1 Thess 5:14	1 Peter 2:11
2 Thess 2:17	1 Peter 5:1
2 Thess 3:12	1 Peter 5:12
1 Timothy 1:3	Jude 3
1 Timothy 2:1	

1 Timothy 4:13
 1 Timothy 5:1
 1 Timothy 6:2
 2 Timothy 4:2
 Titus 1:9
 Titus 2:6