

The Follower's Trail Guide

NAVIGATING THE PATH OF JESUS

OPENING UP

Describe a time when you had to act as a representative for someone else. How did that advocacy uplift the person you were representing?

TEXT**The Way of the Helper | John 16:4b-15**

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

MESSAGE OUTLINE**Big Idea: The ministry of the Holy Spirit spotlights the Son.**

1. The Spirit was sent to help believers. (v. 4b – 7)
2. The Spirit was sent to convict the world. (v. 8 – 11)
3. The Spirit was sent to guide the church. (v. 12 – 15)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



- Before this week's passage, what was your understanding and experience with the Holy Spirit? What questions did you or do you have about the Holy Spirit?
- Now that the disciples understand persecution is coming, Jesus describes the nature of a Helper that will come. Why does Jesus say that it is to the disciples' advantage that He goes away? How can you relate to the disciples' sorrow after hearing this?
- Jesus doesn't only help the disciples see who the Spirit is but what He does. The Spirit can be referred to as a "helper," an "advocate," or a "Counselor." When was a time in your life that you experienced what the Holy Spirit does?
- We learn in verse 8 that the Spirit convicts the world regarding sin, false righteousness, and sinful judgement. Has the Spirit convicted you of your sin, false righteousness, and sinful judgement concerning Christ? How can knowing that the Spirit is sent into the world to "convict" help us in our mission of reaching people for Jesus?
- As a Life Group, have we overemphasized or underemphasized the role of the Spirit? What should change to help us walk in a greater relationship with the Spirit that rightly spotlights The Son?

LIFE CHALLENGE



Jesus' teaching should cause us to recognize that the Spirit is vital to our life as God's people. If you currently underemphasize the Holy Spirit, take time this week to thank God for this amazing gift we've been given. Intentionally worship through the week *by* the Spirit *to* the Son *for* the Glory of the Father.

Part of the Spirit's role is to convict the world in its sin, righteousness, and judgement. Surrender to the Holy Spirit this week so that He may use you to help others turn to Christ. Keep your heart and eyes open for opportunities to share this message of redemption.

CLOSING PRAYER



Praise God for the sending of the Holy Spirit in your life. Praise Him for the work that He is currently doing and will do in the future.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would be used to convict the world of its brokenness.

Ask that His Church would be used for the glorification of the Father by the power of the Spirit.