



## Family Conversation Guide

(December 5, 2021)

This week, David Chadwick will teach about the **Holy Spirit, the Helper**, sent by Jesus to live in us and to guide us.

### Read and Discuss

Turn in your Bibles to [John 16:1-15](#). Read through the passage together, then listen to the sermon.

1. In **verses 1-4**, Jesus tells His followers the reason He has said all of these things to them. He is preparing them for what will happen to them because they have chosen to be His followers. **What are the things that Jesus says may happen?** (*They may be rejected by their families and friends, they may be put out of the synagogues, their place of worship. Those who follow Jesus may even be killed!*)
2. **Why will people do these things to people who follow Jesus? (Verse 3-** *because they do not know the love of the Father, nor His Son, Jesus)*
3. Read **verse 4**. **Why did Jesus tell them these things?** (*So that they would be ready when the hour comes that they are persecuted, that they would remember Jesus had said it would happen*)
4. Read **verse 4b**. **Why hadn't Jesus said these things before?** (*Because the disciples had Him with them, to teach them, until now. Soon, He would be going back to heaven to be with the Father and they would not have Him with them anymore.*) **If the disciples had known how difficult it would be to follow Jesus, do you think they would have chosen to follow him?** Maybe

not! Jesus knew it was time to prepare His followers to be ready for what would happen after He left them.

5. Read **verses 5-6**. **Did anyone ask Jesus where He was going?** *(He had already told them He would be going back to heaven)* **How did they feel when they knew Jesus would be leaving them?** *(Sorrow filled their hearts)*
6. Read **verse 7** for the good news! How to handle our sorrow when life is difficult. First, Jesus reminds them He is telling them the truth. Then, He says it is to their advantage for Him to go away. **Why is it a good thing for Jesus to leave them?** *(So that the Helper, the Holy Spirit, could come to them and now there would be thousands of Jesus's followers all over the world, not just Jesus living in one, centralized location)*
7. **When the Helper comes, what would He do?** *(He will live inside of them, and He will show us the truth.)* He will:
  - Convict the world of sin- remind us when we sin
  - Point out our unrighteousness
  - And remind us that we deserve judgement-and that is why God sent Jesus, so that we could be forgiven and be declared righteous. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus
8. **What else would happen because the Holy Spirit would live inside of them and us?** *(They would go into all the earth, witnessing about Jesus. They would also be empowered to do ministry, with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, including healing.)*
9. **What does the Helper do for us?** *(He will be with us, no matter what happens. He will be IN US, dwelling in us, to give us His power. He will be our advocate. When Satan accuses us, the Holy Spirit will remind us that we are forgiven.)*

10. Read **verse 13. How will the Holy Spirit guide us?** (*He will guide us into all truth. He speaks on the authority of the Father and the Son, and He will declare the things that are to come.*)
  
11. In **verses 14-15, what else does the Helper do?** (*He will glorify Jesus, and He will declare to us all that belongs to Jesus.*) And, we should also tell others about Jesus and glorify Him. He will give us the strength of Jesus to move forward.
  
12. If we follow Jesus, we are victors, not victims. **If there is anyone in your family who has not made this decision (to follow Jesus), it is our job to tell them about Him.** He wants everyone in the world to choose to follow Him, and He wants us to tell them!

### Prayer:

Jesus, thank you for loving us so much that You sent a Helper. Thank You for being our forever friend. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Family Challenge:

Ask your family how it feels to know they have a Helper to be with them. Ask them how the Holy Spirit can help them. Make sure they know:

- Jesus sent the Holy Spirit (The Helper) to live in us
- The Helper shows us the truth when the world or Satan are condemning us or telling us lies
- The Helper shows us when we are doing wrong things- sinning. He convicts us so that we will turn away from sin
- The Helper gives us courage to stand up for Jesus, and to tell others about Him. He shows us the way Jesus wants us to live, in righteousness
- The Helper gives us power to do ministry in the world
- The Helper comforts us when we are upset or sad
- The Helper is our advocate- He is FOR us! And reminds us that all our sins are forgiven forever.

- The Helper helps our worship as we glorify Jesus

Challenge your family to be helpers this week, for each other and other people. **How can they help others?** Make a list!

### **For Younger Kids or for the Whole Family:**

Move furniture around in a larger room in your house to **make an obstacle course**. Use a bandana to blindfold one family member- child or adult, then ask him to walk from one end of the room to the other, trying to get around the obstacles. Next, blindfold another person and ask her to walk to the other end of the room, but walk beside her and help her with encouraging words, reaching out a hand to gently nudge her in the right direction if needed. **Say:** “\_\_\_\_\_ walked across the room by himself, and it was hard. There was no one to tell him when there was something in front of him, and no one to tell him which way to go! But \_\_\_\_\_ had a guide, a helper. The guide helped her by encouraging her with kind words and leading her in the right direction. God gave us a Guide, too. Our Guide is called the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our Helper,”