

John's Gospel @ CF!

John 15:26-16:15 – Part 2

Sermon notes – BK

November 23, 2025

JOHN 16... Still moving on in our notes 😊

Last week, I handed out a sheet with the verses John 15:26-16:15 for you to mark down things that were interesting. Also great for personal further study...

Having these also help with CONTEXT...

As I touched on last week –

- The verses we are covering today are important go-to kind of verses in understanding the role Holy Spirit plays in our lives
- Understanding this in the context of John, helps us

You have the verses with lots of room on it for you to use today.

I would encourage you to take notes...

- Circle key words, mark where you may want to dig in deeper later
- Mark areas you would like to ask questions about
- Write any things that bring insight for you

IF YOU ARE ONLINE... grab your Bible and a notepad...!

Let's read through all these verses again...

Follow along on your sheet (or your Bibles if you are online)...

John 15:26-16:15 (ESV)

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 about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

¹⁶ “I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³ And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴ But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.

“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.

Now that we have read it, grab a pen, and let's go through this together...

[John 15:26-16:15 \(ESV\)](#)

LAST Week –

- Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would come – 15:26
- These verses highlight our understanding of the Trinity
 - Relationship, partnership, role and function of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
- Jesus promised HS to bear witness to Jesus
- Jesus was telling His disciples now, to help them to stay strong in the coming gut-wrenching times in their near-future.
- They would lose any place in the Synagogue
- Many of them will be killed “as a service to God...”

- Ironically, their greatest opposers were the ones who were supposed to have the clearest understanding of God's plan and will!
- Jesus cared for His sheep like a Good Shepherd
- Jesus told them what was coming in the long-term because He was no longer going to be with them
 - Jesus was setting them up for success
 - He told them of the opposition
 - He told them of the help that would be on the way – the Holy Spirit.
 - Jesus told them He was going to His Father...

Moving on this morning...

FOLLOW ON YOUR SHEET...

“⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

Wait...

- Didn't Jesus say they were branches and He is the vine?
- Didn't Jesus just say that they were “good” with Him?

What about...

John 15:11

These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Full... the same word – different tenses...

15:11 – “...may be full.” – May be made full (filled by the Lord)

16:6 – “...*filled* your heart” To pervade, take possession of, one's heart,

- In the sense of a thing that has happened
 - It is true
 - They are filled with sorrow

Jesus does not candy-coat this at all.

BUT, that's not the end of the story...

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.”*

Nevertheless... “In spite of that...”

I tell you the truth...

There is a truth that is *more true*...

Have you heard the statement, “The story I am telling myself?”

I learned it from Jerrie, and it is a very important tool.

This story can feel so true to us – even if it is not.

Do you know... JUST BECAUSE you believe it – it does not guarantee it is true?

- There are *parts of the puzzle* we may not be seeing...
- Maybe you are looking at something too close

- *This is a puzzle of a beautiful mountain scene!*
 - *You back up and it is actually a close-up of a T-shirt of a guy riding a bike.*
- *The quarterback just got sacked... they are going to lose the game!*
 - *You look at the score and they are ahead by 42 points with a minute and a half to go!*

Their sorrow is NOT the end of the story

- While it is *true in the moment...* it is **not the final chapter**
- While *the feeling is very real...* it is **not forever**

Ever get injured and feel like it is NEVER going to get better?!

- When will this headache go away?
- Have I ALWAYS been sick

HAVE YOU EVER FELT LIKE THAT?

On a much deeper level, Jesus is telling them that though He is leaving... it is to their benefit...

“...it is to your advantage that I go away,” (v.7)

I am not sure I would have been able to buy into that at that time...

HOW could life be ANY BETTER without Jesus right there?

Of course, Jesus understood all of this... THEY did not understand what He was up to...

- Jesus was in one place at one time
- Even in their time with Jesus, there were situations where Jesus was not right there with them –
 - When the Disciples could not rebuke the demon Jesus did – Matt. 17:14-20
 - When Jesus would go off to pray
- THIS is why it would be an advantage for them.

We just resigned Josh Naylor to be with the Mariners for the next five years!

- I like him
- He's a **great** first baseman
- He's a **scrappy, gutsy** guy
- We are **better** with him on the team.

It was to our advantage to have him with us...

Better than if we had Ohtani, the Dodgers phenom - like once a month, or even once a week!

THAT SAID... this is an even BETTER scenario...

“...It is to your advantage...”

- It is *expedient* for you
- It is (ultimately) better for you

The Holy Spirit

- Will be WITH you, all the time
- Will be IN you

- He will be AHEAD and BEHIND you!

Jesus says something interesting in **Matthew 18:19-20**

¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

HOW could this be, except by the Holy Spirit?

John 16:7

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.”

Jesus goes on to say what the Holy Spirit will do...

⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:

Holy Spirit – He will convict

To convict – refute, expose – to bring to light...

- **Expose where the sin is**
- **Expose where the righteousness is and where it comes from**
- **Expose what will be judged...**

Jesus expands on this...

⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;

Jesus – “they do not believe in me...”

Sin of unbelief – To me... this is the primary sin the HS is convicting the world of?

Wes Huff – Skeptic vs. Cynic

- **Skeptics are still looking for answers and will learn and accept with sufficient evidence or proof.**
- **“For a cynic, the questions are the endpoint for them.”**

Choosing to believe...

Earlier in John 3, when Jesus was talking with Nicodemus, He said to him...

John 3:18-21

¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;

God – I go to the Father...

- **The Father is THE seat of righteousness**

We see at least part of a prophecy of Jeremiah fulfilled here –

Jeremiah 23:5-6

⁵ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

The Hebrew name for "The Lord my righteousness" is Yahweh Tsidkenu (or Jehovah Tsidkenu), which literally translates to "The LORD our Righteousness".

There is a powerful progression for the righteousness Jesus brings...

Jesus began His public ministry being baptized by John...

1. Jesus came down from Heaven was baptized –

He began His ministry being “buried” to beginning the process to “fulfill all righteousness.”

Matthew 3:14-17

John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from

the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

2. Jesus (will) dies on the cross to pay the penalty for what righteousness required...

Romans 8:3-4

³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

3. Jesus raised from the dead so that we could be made righteous

Romans 4:24-25

It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

The disciples will all understand this Later...

Jesus saw all of this with the end in mind...

Not sure if you noticed, but we do see reference to the Trinity in action...

- Vere 8 – Holy Spirit – Convicts
- Verses 9 – Jesus – unbelief in “*me*” – Jesus
- Verse 10 – God – I go to the Father...

Verse 11 – All of God was/is opposed to ONE enemy... The judged “ruler of this world.”

¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

We will not get into great detail here, but -

Genesis 3:15

God's promise that the "seed" of the woman would crush the serpent's head.

Matthew 25:41

Jesus mentions that the devil and his angels are prepared for eternal fire.

John 12:31

Jesus states that the "prince of this world" will be cast out.

Hebrews 2:14-15

By his death, Jesus destroyed the one who holds the power of death—that is, the devil.

Revelation 20:10

The devil is tormented "day and night forever and ever" in the lake of fire.

PUNCHLINE... Jesus wins! We are on Jesus' side!

John 16:12

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.”

Jesus is aware of their capacity – and they are pretty maxed I'll bet!

SO... Jesus gives them another reason “it is better” that He goes to the Father...

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.

What Holy Spirit does –

- Embodies truth (Spirit of truth)
- Guides you into “ALL the truth...”

Into all truth: “The Greek means ‘all *the* truth’, i.e. the specific truth about the Person of Jesus and the significance of what He said and did. The New Testament is permanent evidence that the apostles were guided into truth about this.” (Tasker)

- Leads by God's truth – Straight from God (“not... on His own authority...”)

- **The Holy Spirit is in continual partnership with Jesus...**

He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Holy Spirit gives us direct intel from God.

Have you thought about that before?

You may say – well we have the Bible... of course we have direct intel!

Here, there is more to it than just that...

“...he will declare to you the things that are to come.”

***Declare* – is in the future active form... meaning it will come, actively!**

He has lead, He will lead you into truth!

- It will never contradict the word
- It will always be in agreement with the character and nature of God...
- If you hear...
 - ***“God told me...”***
 - Is it in line with God’s character?
 - Is it in line with His word?
 - Does it contradict the word in any way?

¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

ALL of this instruction Jesus is giving is coming from God Himself...

We will see it play out...

- **With the Disciples we see it clearly**
- **With us we see it work in each day...**

If you had the choice of being in the presence of Jesus once in a while, or the Holy Spirit all the time...

What would you choose?

That is...

If you could be in the presence of God once in a while, or all the time... what would you choose?

Sounds kind of obvious...

The Holy Spirit's role in our lives is critical

How do you grow in your relationship with the Holy Spirit?

- **Ask Him to help you!**
 - **Reveal anything that is blocking**
 - **Open my eyes to what you are doing**
 - **Open my ears to what you are saying**
- **Take the simple steps that follow**
 - **Step out in the things that are clear**
 - **Ask for wisdom in the things that are not**
- **Read his word...**
 - **John 15**

- Colossians 3 ☺
- Sermon on the Mount
- Proverbs
- Bible plans
- SOAP... Scripture Observation Application Prayer
- Etc...
- Seek His face

His Word is the most clear way to know what is to be done.

- If you are not obeying in the clear things, you will not follow Him in the things that take greater faith
- His Word is first

Certainly, we pray and listen... just maybe make sure you have a pen nearby to write down what you hear Him say...

- Test it with the Word
- Ask trusted men and women of God to test it and pray with you.

THEN you will...

- **Confess your sin**
- **Embrace His righteousness**
- **Walk in His presence**

Still struggling in feeling NOT WORTHY?

That's why we have Jesus!

He makes you worthy!