

**WOMEN IN THE WORD
OF
FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH**

THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED
Exploring the Father's Promise to Believers

Scripture Reference Notes for
Lesson SIX

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
(Chapters 15-17)

February 21, 2023

In the previous chapters of John we talked of Jesus being anointed by Mary, the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the washing of the disciples' feet, and the last supper, Judas' betrayal, Jesus speaking of His impending death, and the promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

In these next chapters Jesus will continue to explain Himself to His beloved disciples. Jesus knew they were distressed by what He had been speaking to them. He is compassionate and loving as He continues to share His heart and final words with them.

JOHN CHAPTER 15

JESUS IS THE VINE

Jhn 15:1 - "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

Jhn 15:2 - "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.

Jhn 15:3 - "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

Jhn 15:4 - "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

Jhn 15:5 - "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

Jhn 15:6 - "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned.

Jhn 15:7 - "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Jhn 15:8 - "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.

Jhn 15:9 - "Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love.

Jhn 15:10 - "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

Jhn 15:11 - "These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

The definition of abide is "to continue in, dwell, endure, remain, stand, tarry".

In Hebrew it means "to await, remain, lodge, sojourn".

One author says "abiding is the secret of the believers' victory". To stay close to the Savior is to stay connected with the source of the power and strength that is available to us as believers. Jesus said "without Me you can do nothing." I believe that is true.

And what about pruning? Have you ever been "pruned" by the Father? Jesus said God is the vinedresser. Hebrews 12:6-8 tells us... "FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES."

It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons."

Pruning is necessary in order for us to grow in our sanctification and become fruitful for the Kingdom.

DISCIPLES RELATING TO EACH OTHER

Jhn 15:12 - "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

Jhn 15:13 - "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

Jhn 15:14 - "You are My friends if you do what I command you.

Jhn 15:15 - "No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.

Jhn 15:16 - "You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

Jhn 15:17 - "This I command you, that you love one another.

DISCIPLES RELATING TO THE WORLD

Jhn 15:18 - "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you.

Jhn 15:19 - "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.

Jhn 15:20 - "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

Jhn 15:21 - "But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me.

Jhn 15:22 - "If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.

Jhn 15:23 - "He who hates Me hates My Father also.

Jhn 15:24 - "If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well.

Jhn 15:25 - "But they have done this to fulfill the word that is written in their Law, 'THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.' (Psalm 35:19, 69:4, 109:3)

Jhn 15:26 - "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me,

Jhn 15:27 - and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

JOHN CHAPTER 16

JESUS' WARNING

Jhn 16:1 - "These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling.

Jhn 16:2 - "They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God.

Jhn 16:3 - "These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me.

Jhn 16:4 - "But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.

THE HOLY SPIRIT PROMISED

Jhn 16:5 - "But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?'

Jhn 16:6 - "But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

Jhn 16:7 - "But 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.

Jhn 16:8 - "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;

Jhn 16:9 - concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me;

Jhn 16:10 - and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me;

Jhn 16:11 - and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

Jhn 16:12 - "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear [them] now.

Jhn 16:13 - "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

Jhn 16:14 - "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

Jhn 16:15 - "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

The Holy Spirit's work includes:

--He intercedes for believers—Romans 8:26--In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for [us] with groanings too deep for words;

--He speaks to churches—Revelation 2:7--'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'

--He leads disciples—Acts 8:29--Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." 16:6-7--They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them;"

--He appoints leaders—Acts 20:28--"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

--He searches all things—I Corinthians 2:10--For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

--He knows the mind of God—I Corinthians 2:11--For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

--He teaches the Gospel—I Corinthians 2:12-13--For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

--He dwells in believers—I Corinthians 3:16, Romans 8:11, II Timothy 1:14

--He gives spiritual gifts—I Corinthians 12:11--But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

--He gives life to believers—II Corinthians 3:5-6--Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter (of the law) but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

--He cries out within our hearts—Galatians 4:6--Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

--He leads believers—Galatians 5:18--But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

--He helps in our weakness—Romans 8:26--In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;

--He strengthens believers—Ephesians 3:16--.....that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

--He intercedes for believers—Romans 8:27--and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The Holy Spirit has a saving role, a teaching role, a testifying role, a convicting role and a guiding role.

J.I. Packer points out, “It is as if the Spirit stands behind us, throwing light over our shoulder, on Jesus, who stands facing us. The Spirit’s message to us is NEVER, ‘Look at me; listen to me; come to me; get to know me;’ BUT always, ‘Look at Him; and see His glory; listen to Him; and hear His word; go to Him and have life; get to know Him, and taste His gift of joy and peace.’”

Max Lucado in his book “Help is Here” wrote: “We have a helper, a divine instructor. He will save us from the cul-de-sac of confusion and the dead end of doubt. He does this by enrolling us in the primary course of His university: JESUS CHRIST.”

JESUS’ DEATH AND RESURRECTION FORETOLD

Jhn 16:16 - "A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again, a little while, and you will see Me."

Jhn 16:17 - Some of His disciples then said to one another, "What is this thing He is telling us, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again, a little while, and you will see Me'; and, 'because I go to the Father'?"

Jhn 16:18 - So they were saying, "What is this that He says, 'A little while'? We do not know what He is talking about."

Jhn 16:19 - Jesus knew that they wished to question Him, and He said to them, "Are you deliberating together about this, that I said, 'A little while, and you will not see Me, and again a little while, and you will see Me'?"

Jhn 16:20 - "Truly, truly, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy.

Jhn 16:21 - "Whenever a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has been born into the world.

Jhn 16:22 - "Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you.

JESUS PROMISE OF ANSWERED PRAYER

Jhn 16:23 - "In that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you.

Jhn 16:24 - "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

Jhn 16:25 - "These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; an hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but will tell you plainly of the Father.

Jhn 16:26 - "In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request of the Father on your behalf;

Jhn 16:27 - for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.

Jhn 16:28 - "I came forth from the Father and have come into the world; I am leaving the world again and going to the Father."

Jhn 16:29 - His disciples said, "Lo, now You are speaking plainly and are not using a figure of speech.

Jhn 16:30 - "Now we know that You know all things, and have no need for anyone to question You; by this we believe that You came from God."

Jhn 16:31 - Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe?"

Jhn 16:32 - "Behold, an hour is coming, and has already come, for you to be scattered, each to his own [home,] and to leave Me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.

Jhn 16:33 - "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

JOHN CHAPTER 17

JESUS' HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER

Jhn 17:1 - Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You,

Jhn 17:2 - even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life.

Jhn 17:3 - "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Jhn 17:4 - "I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.

Jhn 17:5 - "Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

Jhn 17:6 - "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

Jhn 17:7 - "Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You;

Jhn 17:8 - for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.

Jhn 17:9 - "I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours;

Jhn 17:10 - and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them.

Jhn 17:11 - "I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are.

Jhn 17:12 - "While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.

THE DISCIPLES IN THE WORLD

Jhn 17:13 - "But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.

Jhn 17:14 - "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Jhn 17:15 - "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.

Jhn 17:16 - "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Jhn 17:17 - "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

Jhn 17:18 - "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

Jhn 17:19 - "For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

Jhn 17:20 - "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

Jhn 17:21 - that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

JESUS IS IN UNITY WITH THE FATHER

Jhn 17:22 - "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one;

Jhn 17:23 - I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.

Jhn 17:24 - "Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

Jhn 17:25 - "O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me;

Jhn 17:26 - and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

SO WHAT?

Jesus was so loving and compassionate to His disciples. He is that way with us now. He loves us so much that He gave His life to save us from our sinful state and so that we could be with Him in eternity because He does not want to be there without us.

In light of what we are hearing these days about the moving of the Lord on college campuses and other places, perhaps the awareness of presence of the Holy Spirit is becoming more of a reality for many. The prophets Joel, Ezekial, Isaiah, and Zechariah spoke of the "pouring out of the God's Spirit".

Are we there? Is there a revival in our midst? Only God knows! But we should certainly be praying that the Lord Jesus would begin a "revival" in each one of our hearts. May it begin with me!

The LORD has certainly given the second-best gift of the Holy Spirit of God to indwell us forever. Salvation (being the first great gift) and the Holy Spirit.....what else can we ask for?!!

Psalm 104:30--You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the ground.

Zechariah 4:6--Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts.

OUR MEMORY VERSE:

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED

Exploring the Father's Promise to Believers

LESSON SIX

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

(part 2, chapters 15, 16, 17)

In chapter 15 of John, Jesus continues His time with the eleven disciples. He is continuing to encourage them, to teach them and to prepare them for what is to come.

1—What do you think is going on in the minds and hearts of these men who have spent the last 3 years with the Son of God?

How would you be feeling? Can you put yourself in the scene?

2—In John 15:1-8 Jesus uses the imagery of a vineyard to communicate an essential principle to His disciples. Immediately He identified Himself as the true Vine and His Father as the Vinedresser.

That makes us the branches. Right?

Jesus talks about “pruning”. What does this mean? Why are branches pruned?

Have you ever been “spiritually” pruned? Is so, what was the ultimate result?

3---The principle of bearing fruit is presented in John 15:4. What is this principle? Perhaps verses 4-8 will help in this.

4---In the last part of verse 5, Jesus makes the declaration “without me you can do nothing’.

Are you comforted or frustrated by this?

Explain

How does Philippians 4:13 help?

5---In verse John 15:11, Jesus talks about joy. Read the following verses and comment on the “divine joy” spoken of.

Nehemiah 8:10

Psalms 16:11

Psalms 43:4

Jeremiah 15:16

Hebrews 12:2

Does the presence of the Holy Spirit in you help you experience this “divine joy”? Explain

6---According to our LORD in John 15:16, “we are chosen”. In addition please read I Peter 2:9. How does it make you feel to know how special you are to God and that He chose you?

7---According to John 15:26-27 what is the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

8—How did the work of the Holy Spirit enable the disciples to be witnesses even through opposition. See Mark 13:11 and Acts 1:8.

9---In John 16:5-7, Jesus tells these men He is leaving them. Where does He say he is going?

How did they react?

What promise did Jesus comfort them with?

10—How might they (or you) have felt when Jesus said “it was to their advantage that I go away”?

The disciples were focusing on Jesus’ words of departure. In doing so sorrow filled their hearts. Jesus wanted to comfort them but also help them to focus on where He was going and the work He would accomplish through them. Jesus was pointing them toward developing an eternal perspective.

How is your eternal perspective?

11---In verses John 16:8-15, Jesus identifies the Holy Spirit’s work in the world. Comment on the three areas of conviction:

Sin—

Righteousness—

Judgment---

12---In John 16:13-14 where does the Holy Spirit gets His authority?

Who is He going to glorify?

In John 17 we read what is often termed the “High Priestly Prayer” of Jesus.

13---Who is Jesus praying for in this prayer?

What is He asking of the Father on our behalf?

Is it a new concept to you to realize that the Son of God prays for you to the Father?

How does that make you feel? Remember you are “CHOSEN”.

Father please help us to understand and enjoy this relationship. Amen!