

TAKE HEART!

John 16

FROM PASTOR MARK

16:33 gives the theme of this part of Jesus' final message to his disciples: *"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But **take heart**; I have overcome the world."*

Jesus was preparing His own for the "pressure" they would face: Persecution (16:1-4) and Life without His physical presence (16:5-6). Why would He tell them and us that *"it is to your advantage that I go away"*? He left them (and us) RESOURCES for the pressure of life in this fallen world...

- I. **We have the SPIRIT'S PRESENCE (16:7-15).**
 - A. His Identity (7)
 - B. His Ministry (8-15)
 1. To the Unsaved: Conviction of...
 - a. Sin—
 - b. Righteousness—
 - c. Judgment—
 2. To the Saved
 - a. Guidance in God's Word
 - b. Glorification of God's _____
- II. **We know the SAVIOR'S PLAN (16:16-22).**
 1. A Perplexing Plan (16-19)
 2. A Painful Plan (20a)
 3. A Purposeful Plan (20b-22)
- III. **We can Experience SUCCESSFUL PRAYER (16:23-28).**
 - A. The Approach to Prayer: "In My Name" (23)
 - B. The Effect of Prayer (24)
 - C. The Object of Prayer (25-28)
- IV. **We have SOVEREIGN PEACE (29-33).**
 - A. Threats to Peace
 - B. The Source of Peace: "In Me"

Are you "in Christ," whom having not seen, you love (1 Peter 1:7)? Do you feel the pressure of the world? Are you taking heart in His resources?

FOR NEXT TIME: Read John 17:1-19, *Listen, Jesus Is Praying*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR MARCH 19, 2023

1. Read John 16:1-6. In what area(s) are you feeling stress because you are seeking to live as a Christian in this world?

2. Read John 16:9-11. Do you remember being convicted of sin and your need of Christ by the Holy Spirit before you became a Christian? What was that like? How does this help you know how to pray for unsaved family or friends?
3. Which resource is most helpful to you currently and why: The Spirit's Presence (16:7-15), The Savior's Plan (16:16-22), Successful Prayer (16:29-33), or Sovereign Peace (16:29-33)?
4. Read John 16:33. What truth from this verse is encouraging to you?
5. Tonight being "ZOOM YOUR MISSIONARY NIGHT," try to connect with your LG missionary and spend some time praying for them.
6. Review the schedule for IBC's Missions Festival, March 22-26 and spend some time praying for God to use all of its events in our church and our own lives.
7. NOTE—Who could you invite to Good Friday or Easter at IBC? Pray for them.