

the gospel of

JOHN

all intents and purposes

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 1: THE GUIDE TO THE TRUTH

Read the Text

John 16:4b-15

4 “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.

Main Point

In this chapter of John, we get to dive into the power and authority of the Holy Spirit. To the disciples' surprise and confusion, Jesus explains that ***He has to leave so that the Spirit can come to help His people***. Although this brought sadness to the disciples, this is good news for us as Christians because we have access to the Holy Spirit who is unencumbered by the limits of time and physical presence. But what has the Spirit come to do for us? ***The Father sent the Holy Spirit to convict us of sin and lead us to abide in lives of righteousness***. Because of the Holy Spirit and Jesus' work on the cross, we have freedom to confess our sin and receive forgiveness. We are never alone! ***The goal of the Holy Spirit is to provide help and counsel for Christians here and now while actively establishing God's kingdom here on earth***. This means that we can ask Him for wisdom, favor, deliverance – anything!

Reflect Together

1. ***Who is God?***: The Holy Spirit can sometimes feel confusing and elusive, but He is an essential part of the trinity. How do you perceive the Holy Spirit? Who is He, and what does He do?
2. ***What has He done?***: When is a time in your life that you felt the Holy Spirit's presence or saw Him at work? If you don't have an example, that's okay! Listen to learn how others have experienced Him and prayerfully ask Him to open your eyes to perceive His work in your life. If you do struggle to experience His presence, consider sharing that with your group so they can draw you out and pray with you.
3. ***Who are you?***: Pastor Eddie challenged us to ask ourselves if we do truly experience salvation every day. Do we remember our transformation? Do we try to go through life on our own without consulting the Spirit? How did you resonate with these questions? What does your relationship with the Holy Spirit look like?

4. ***What are you to do?*** What would you like to stop, start, or change in your life to get more in touch with the Holy Spirit? Engage more in a spiritual practice like silence and solitude? Spend less time doing something that takes you away from feeling His presence? Engage more in gathering in DNA, MC, or the Sunday gatherings?

Abide Together

Pray as a group over what came up during your discussion. Ask the Holy Spirit to move in your DNA and MC and in your individual lives to draw you closer to Him.