

Introduction

When a business or organization brings on a new manager, it is common to introduce the person to everyone before he starts, and to give a start date for the person. In that introduction, they will tell of the background of the person, and the competencies that he brings to the table. Then, they will tell of what areas of responsibility the person will have. After he arrives, there is usually a formal introduction to everyone with the new manager present.

Jesus is spending His final few hours with His disciples. In the Upper Room Discourse, He washed their feet, and shared with them again about the importance of servant leadership. He told them that He was only with them a little while longer, and that it was time for Him to be glorified (Jn 13:31-33). Then, He gave them a new commandment, to love one another just as He has loved them. Jesus told them not to let their hearts be troubled over His departure. He told them that He was going to prepare a place for them, and then come back again to receive them.

Then Jesus told them that He was going to ask the Father, and that He was going to give them another Helper. The word for another was *allos*, meaning another of the same kind, character, and traits. Jesus was going to send them the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit. He told them that the world could not receive the Holy Spirit, but that they would know Him, because He was going to be with them, and in them (Jn 14:16-17). That was Jesus' first introduction to them of the Helper He was sending. Then, Jesus and the disciples got up from the Upper Room and headed for the Mount of Olives.

While walking to the Mount of Olives, Jesus spoke to them about abiding in the vine so that they could bear much fruit. Then, He told them again about the Helper that He was going to send from the Father. The Helper was going to testify about Jesus, and that they would also testify. This was the second time that Jesus has brought up the Holy Spirit. Then, Jesus told them that they were going to be hated and persecuted by the world. He told them this so that it would not cause them to stumble.

That leads us up to the text for today, John 16:5-15. They are still on the walk from the Upper Room to the Mount of Olives. Jesus brings up the Holy Spirit for the third time. He tells them that if He does not leave, the Helper cannot come, so it is to their advantage that He goes away. Then, Jesus tells them what the Holy Spirit will be doing when He comes, i.e., the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is going to convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment. The Holy Spirit is going to guide them in the truth. Third, the Holy Spirit is going to glorify Jesus.

The Work of the Holy Spirit

1. Convict the world
2. Guide us in the truth
3. Glorify Jesus

(Jn 16:5–15) “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} 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. {8} And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; {9} concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; {10} and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; {11} and concerning judgment, because

the ruler of this world has been judged. {12} “I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. {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. {14} He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you. {15} All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.”

1. Convict the world

Jesus begins by saying, “But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’” Jesus has been telling His disciples for months that He is going to be arrested, condemned, and put to death. He did not stop there, but He also told them that He was going to be raised from the dead, and that He would be going back to the Father. In six different conversations that evening Jesus told them that He was going back to the Father. (Jn 13:3, 31-33, 36, 14:2-4, 18-19, 28)

(Jn 16:5) “But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’”

Jesus said to them, “And none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’” Earlier that evening Jesus had told them, “And you know the way where I am going.” Thomas replied to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” Jesus explained to them that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and that no one comes to the Father but through Him. At this point, Jesus felt like He had made it clear to them where He was going and that particular question did not need to be asked again.

(Jn 14:4-6) “And you know the way where I am going.” {5} Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” {6} Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

Then Jesus said, “But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.” In John 14:1, Jesus told them not to let their hearts be troubled. He knew that His arrest, and death on the cross could cause their hearts to be troubled, and He did not want that to happen. It was only natural for their hearts to be troubled when their leader and mentor is arrested and put to death. Jesus exhorted them not to let their hearts be troubled, but to believe in God and to believe in Him. He told them that He was going to prepare a place for them and would come and receive them. After telling them that, He had told them that He was going to ask the Father and He would give them another Helper, the Spirit of truth. The Holy Spirit is called the Comforter, and He comforts us and keeps us from having sorrow fill our hearts. And just as He brought up the Holy Spirit then, He brings up the Holy Spirit again when talking about sorrow or trouble in the heart. The Holy Spirit is a wonderful help when our hearts are full of sorrow.

(Jn 16:6) “But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.”

In the PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament in 1993, I made a triple-bogey on the last hole of the tournament to miss my card by one shot. My heart was full of shock and sorrow as I left the scoring area and headed to the parking lot to put up my clubs. As I walked the Holy Spirit helped me in that time of need. He gave me a song out of Romans 15:13. The Holy Spirit gave me the melody and that verse to go with the melody. I didn’t ask for the song, but the Holy Spirit, my Helper and My comforter, saw that I needed to be filled with joy and peace and not to be

sorrowful. As I began singing this new song of the Lord, the Holy Spirit filled me with joy and peace. After putting my clubs in the trunk, I walked back to the scoreboard, and there were some reporters there that wanted to do an interview with me, and in particular, about the last hole. There was a reporter from Sports Illustrated there, and he was listening and observing me answer these questions. He was absolutely amazed at my attitude and response to the situation. He was so awestruck that He asked if they could come do an article on my family and I. They scheduled it and then ran a three-page story on my family in I in the June 1994 issue. It all happened because when my heart was sorrowful, the Holy Spirit ministered to me and filled me with joy and peace that surpasses understanding.

(Ro 15:13) “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Jesus could see that their hearts were filled with sorrow, and He tells them, “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.” In the same way that the Holy Spirit helped me in my sorrow, Jesus knew that the Holy Spirit would Help them in their time of sorrow.

(Jn 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.”

Jesus told them that it was to their advantage that He go away. That may have been difficult for them to understand at the time. He said that the Helper could not come to them until He goes and sends the Helper to them. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all part of the Godhead, the trinity, and each of them had different roles to play. The Father sent the Son to die for our sins and to make atonement. He went back to the Father, where He is seated at the right hand of the Father, making intercession for us. The Holy Spirit came and indwells believers, gives gifts, empowers, testifies, comforts, teaches, and many other things. He has a different role. When Jesus came as a man, He was not in all places at one time. The Holy Spirit is everywhere and the ministry through believers was all over the world at the same time, something that Jesus did not do as the Son of Man.

(Ro 8:34) “who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.”

After telling the disciples that it was to their advantage for Him to go away, He gave the first work of the Holy Spirit, to convict the world. There are three things that the Holy Spirit convicts of: sin, righteousness, and judgment.

(Jn 16:8) “And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;”

I always thought that the Holy Spirit worked independently, convicting people of sin, righteousness, and judgment. However, nearly every scholar that I have read say that the Holy Spirit was not given to the world, but to believers. The Holy Spirit is with and in believers, and that the world cannot receive Him. Therefore, the conviction of the Holy Spirit in the world works through believers. It is the Spirit inside us that testifies to others and convicts them of sin, righteousness, and judgment. That places the burden and responsibility on believers, on you and I to share the gospel with believers.

(Jn 14:16–17) “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; {17} *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.”

The word for convict is *elencho* (Strong’s G1651). It means to reprove, rebuke, convince, and convict. The Word Study New Testament Dictionary says it means to shame, disgrace, convict, and prove one in the wrong and thus shame him. One of the best ways to see the meaning is how it is used. Here are some of the usages of it in the New Testament.

- In church discipline: (Mt 18:15) “If your brother sins, go and **show** him his **fault** in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.”
- In church discipline (of pastors): (1 Ti 5:20) “Those who continue in sin, **rebuke** in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful *of sinning*.”
- In correction of false teachers: (Tt 1:13) “This testimony is true. For this reason **reprove** them severely so that they may be sound in the faith,”
- In correction of sin: (Tt 2:15) “These things speak and exhort and **reprove** with all authority. Let no one disregard you.”
- In reprimanding, rebuking of Herod by John the Baptist: (Lk 3:18–19) “So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people. {19} But when Herod the tetrarch was **reprimanded** by him because of Herodias, his brother’s wife, and because of all the wicked things which Herod had done,”
- In exposing: (Jn 3:20) “For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be **exposed**.”
- In prophecy in our church services: (1 Co 14:24–25) “But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he is **convicted** by all, he is called to account by all; {25} the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God is certainly among you.”
- In exposing sin when walking in the light, and not in darkness: (Eph 5:11–13) “Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even **expose** them; {12} for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. {13} But all things become visible when they are **exposed** by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.”
- In preaching God’s word: (2 Ti 4:2) “preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; **reprove**, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.”
- In teaching God’s word: (Tt 1:9) “holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to **refute** those who contradict.”
- In preaching to the lost: (Jud 14–15) “*It was* also about these men *that* Enoch, *in* the seventh *generation* from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, {15} to execute judgment upon all, and to **convict** all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

In all these cases, God used men to convict the world of sin, false teachers of their teaching, and sinful behavior in the church. So, when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit was going to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment; it happens primarily through believers. I say primarily, because I believe that God is God and can do whatever He wants to do, however and whenever He wants to do it. Solomon wrote that the hearts of kings are like channels of

water and the Lord directs them wherever He wishes. The Holy Spirit may not be in a king, or always with a king, but He is not limited in His ability to work in the hearts of anyone.

(Pr 21:1) “The king’s heart is *like* channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes.”

a. **Convict the world concerning sin**

The first thing that the Holy Spirit will convict the world of is sin. The Greek word for sin is hamartia (Strong’s G266), which literally means to miss the mark. If you were an archer and were trying to hit the bullseye, and did not hit the center of the bullseye, you have missed your mark. Concerning sin, when someone violates God’s laws and commands, he has missed the mark.

(Jn 16:9) “concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me;”

Paul wrote in Romans 5 that sin entered into the world through one man, Adam. His sin brought death into the world. Ever since then, the sinful nature has been passed down through the seed of Adam, and all have sinned. We have not all sinned in the same way, or for the same sins, but we have all sinned. James wrote that if we are guilty of one sin, we are guilty of the whole law.

(Ro 5:12–13) “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— {13} for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.”

(Jas 2:10) “For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all.

In John 15:22-24, Jesus said that if He had not come into the world and spoke to them, the world would not have sin, but now that He has come, the world has no excuse for sin. He has made a provision for our sins to be forgiven, and so people are without excuse. His words and His works testify that He is the Messiah, and people are without excuse for their sins.

(Jn 15:22–24) “If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. {23} He who hates Me hates My Father also. {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.”

When we speak about sin, there is an unpardonable sin, and that is unbelief. Mark wrote that “He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. Jesus told the religious leaders that unless they believed in Him, they would die in their sins. The only way to be free from our sins is to believe. The sin of unbelief is the determining factor in someone dying in their sins.

(Mk 16:16) “He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.”

(Jn 8:24) “Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins.”

When sharing with people, Romans 3:23 is an excellent verse, which says, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” I have found that it is good to include yourself when sharing. “This verse says that all of us have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. I have sinned; you have sinned; all of us have sinned.” I have not met anyone who claims to be sinless, so this is not usually something that people dispute.

(Ro 3:23) “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

Many people may counter that they basically live a good life. They don’t deny having sinned, but they think of themselves as good. In the Bridge illustration, Isaiah 59:2 is used to depict a chasm between God and man caused by our sins, which have made a separation between us and God. This is another good verse to have stored in memory for the opportunities that you have to share with others.

(Is 59:2) “But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear.”

b. Convict the world concerning righteousness

The second area that the Holy Spirit will convict the world concerns righteousness. Jesus said, “concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me;” Jesus lived a perfect and sinless life; He was without sin. Since Jesus was going back to the Father, He would not be around for people to see Him and His righteousness.

(Jn 16:10) “and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me;”

In Acts 17:31, Paul was in Athens, preaching at the Areopagus, and he said that God was declaring that “all men should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.” The resurrection of Jesus was proof of Jesus’ righteousness.

(Ac 17:30–31) “Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, {31} because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”

When we share the gospel with people, part of that gospel plan is that Jesus is the Son of God, and He came and lived a righteous life, and died for our sins so that we could be forgiven. If Jesus was not sinless, He could not have been an acceptable sacrifice for us. Hebrews 4:15 is an excellent memory verse, and is very useful in testifying of Jesus’ righteousness. Jesus was “tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.”

(Heb 4:15) “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.”

c. Convict the world concerning judgment

The third thing that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of is judgment. Jesus said, that the Helper would come and convict the world concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been

judged. Earlier in John 12:31, Jesus said, “Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.” Jesus’ death brought freedom from sin to those who believe, but it brought judgment on Satan for putting to death an innocent man. Because Jesus was condemned and crucified, the ruler of this world was judged and cast out.

(Jn 16:11) “and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.”

(Jn 12:31) “Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.”

When sharing the gospel with the world, Hebrews 9:27 is a great verse. It says, “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment.” There will be a judgment and unbelievers need to be convinced about the judgment.

(Heb 9:27) “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment,”

Another good verse to share about the judgment is Romans 6:23, which says, “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Since we have all sinned, what we deserve for our deeds is death. When we stand before God in judgment, the verdict is death, unless we have believed in Jesus and received His free gift of eternal life.

(Ro 6:23) “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

2. Guide us in the truth

The first work of the Holy Spirit that Jesus gave in this passage is that He will convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. The second work of the Holy Spirit is to guide believers in the truth. The first work was directed towards the world, those that do not know Christ. The second work is directed towards believers, those that know Christ. Jesus switches from calling the Holy Spirit the Helper to referring to Him as the Spirit of Truth. The Spirit of Truth will guide us into all the truth.

(Jn 16:12-13) “I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. {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.”

Jesus told the disciples that He had many more things to say to them, but they could not bear them at that time. When was Jesus going to communicate these things to the disciples? He was going to communicate them through the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth. He said, “But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth...” The Holy Spirit was going to guide the disciples in the other things that Jesus needed to tell the disciples.

After Jesus rose from dead, He told the disciples He was going to send forth the promise of the Father, the Holy Spirit, and they were to stay in Jerusalem until they were clothed with power from on high.

(Lk 24:49) “And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Right before His ascension, He met with the disciples and told them that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon them, and that they would be His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the utmost parts of the earth. Shortly after Jesus had ascended, during the Feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. That is when the Spirit of truth came.

(Ac 1:8) “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

After the Holy Spirit had come upon them, the Holy Spirit began to speak to them and to reveal the things that Jesus spoke about. In 2 Peter 1:20-21, Peter wrote, “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.” The Spirit of truth moved men and spoke to them from God, and as a result, we have the word of God.

(2 Pe 1:20–21) “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one’s own interpretation, {21} for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

Similarly, Paul recorded in his second letter to Timothy that “all Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” The Greek word for inspired is *theopneustos* (Strong’s G2315), which is a compound word. *Theo* means God and *pneustos* means wind. The Holy Spirit is *pneuma* (Strong’s G4151), and it means breath, spirit, or wind. Both words have the same root word, *pneo* (Strong’s G4154), which means to blow or a breeze. The word of God is God-breathed; it is God speaking through the Holy Spirit.

(2 Ti 3:16–17) “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; {17} so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”

The Holy Spirit did not speak on His own initiative, but He spoke whatever He heard from the Father. Jesus spoke what He heard from the Father, and the Holy Spirit also spoke those things which He heard from the Father.

(Jn 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.”

The Holy Spirit also discloses to us the things to come. Much of the church believes that this kind of revelation ended when the word of God was canonized. They would say that this was fulfilled through John’s book of Revelations and through some of Paul’s letters. However, the Holy Spirit continues to speak to believers today, and He sometimes discloses to us what is to come. We do not have more scripture being given to us; we do not add on to the scriptures we have. But the Holy Spirit still gives prophetic words to us.

Here are some examples. One day I was in my office praying and the Holy Spirit said that I was going to get a phone call from a man named Nathan, whom I had never met. He told me what

this man was going to talk to me about. A little later that day, my phone rang and it was this man named Nathan, and he spoke to me about what the Holy Spirit had spoken to me about.

Another day, my wife and I were walking around the neighborhood, and the Holy Spirit began to speak to me about the small group we were attending. He said that they were going to play the newlywed game at the next meeting. Then, the Holy Spirit gave me the three questions that were going to be asked of the wives, and the three questions that the husbands were going to be asked. Karen and I discussed them while walking. The next day at our small group, they surprised everyone by playing the newlywed game, and they asked the very same questions that the Holy Spirit had given me on our walk. We answered all six of the questions correctly because we had agreed upon our answers in advance. The funny thing about it is there was a couple that visited for the first time, and they got all six answers correct. They had a tie-breaker question, and we missed that one. The Holy Spirit had not given us that question in advance.

When we were living in Orlando, Florida in the late 80's, the Holy Spirit spoke to me and said that God was moving me to Phoenix. We had spent a summer in Phoenix, and I had also been there several times in the winter, and I had no desire to live in Arizona. We had a desire to live in Georgia, so we looked to see if there was a Phoenix, Georgia, and there isn't one. There is a Dallas, Georgia, but no Phoenix, Georgia. In February 1994, we moved to Acworth, Georgia, and we loved it. We used to joke about me saying I had heard the Holy Spirit tell me that God was moving me to Phoenix. In 2005, we moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico. I had wanted to be near my parents to take care of them as they grew older, and when my father asked me to help him with his business, we moved there. After I had been there for several years, I had just pulled out of the parking lot at the office and was waiting to turn right onto Juan Tabo Boulevard, and I glanced up at the street sign. Our office was located at the corner of Juan Tabo and Phoenix. Suddenly, it dawned on me what the Holy Spirit said to me twenty years earlier, that God was moving me to Phoenix. God had planned for me to go work for my parents and help them out, and He didn't give me all the details because I was not ready for that. I was a professional golfer at the time, and was going to go back on the Tour. A full disclosure to me would have been distracting from what I was supposed to do up until we moved to New Mexico. We no longer laughed at what I heard, but were awed again by God disclosing things to come.

There have been many different occasions where the Holy Spirit spoke very clearly and precisely about things that were going to take place. Most of the time the Holy Spirit gave these things to me along with the attitude, response, or action that I was to take when those things happened. I am a teacher by gifting, not a prophet, but the manifestation of prophecy can happen to any of us. The Holy Spirit still discloses to us what is to come.

3. Glorify Jesus

The third work of the Holy Spirit that we find here is that He will glorify Jesus. Jesus said, "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you."

(Jn 16:14-15) "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. {15} All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you."

There are many ways that Jesus is glorified. In John 11, Jesus brought Lazarus back from the dead. When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, He said, "This sickness is not to end in death, but

for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.” That miracle and the other miracles that Jesus did brought glory to the Father, and to Jesus.

(Jn 11:3–4) “So the sisters sent word to Him, saying, “Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick.” {4} But when Jesus heard this, He said, “This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.”

In John 13, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him.” Jesus was speaking about His resurrection from the dead, and His return to the Father, and to His previous glory that He had before He came to earth (Jn 17:5).

(Jn 13:31–32) “Therefore when he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him; {32} if God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and will glorify Him immediately.”

In John 14, Jesus said that whatever we ask in His name, He would do it so that the Father would be glorified in the Son. The Father and the Son are both glorified in answered prayers.

(Jn 14:13) “Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

In Ephesians 3:20-21, Paul praised God, saying, “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.” The power that works within us is the Holy Spirit.

(Eph 3:20–21) “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, {21} to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.”

In Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:8 Jesus told the disciples that they would be clothed with power from on high, and they would receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon them. The power that works within us is the power of the Holy Spirit. When God heals someone, like the lame man in Acts 3, God is glorified. Notice that when confronted by the religious rulers, Peter said that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene that the lame man stood before them in good health. The Holy Spirit glorified Jesus through the healing of the man, and He also glorified Jesus through Peter, being filled with the Holy Spirit, testifying about Jesus.

(Ac 4:8–10) “Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers and elders of the people, {9} if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, {10} let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by this *name* this man stands here before you in good health.”

Another way that Jesus is glorified by the Spirit is through praise. In Ephesians 5, Paul exhorts us not to be drunk with wine for that is dissipation, but to be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with our heart to the Lord, always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father...” We are filled with the Holy Spirit in our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. When Paul used the term spiritual songs, it means songs of the Spirit. In our worship the Holy

Spirit will give new songs of praise and worship, and they glorify the name of Jesus. I have found that when I pray in the Spirit, I can't help but to begin worshipping God. The Holy Spirit naturally wants to help us worship God in songs of praise and thanksgiving.

(Eph 5:18–20) “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, {19} speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; {20} always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;”

I am not a highly skilled musician, but the Holy Spirit has given me many great worship songs. One day I was walking around our neighborhood in Orlando, and I was praying. All at once the Holy Spirit gave me a song out of 2 Peter 1:5-10, and it has become one of my favorites. Another time I was flying on TWA from Saint Louis to Iowa City, and when the captain turned off the fasten seat belt sign and said we could move around the cabin, I pulled out my Bible. When I opened it, I was in Romans 11, and the Holy Spirit immediately gave me a song from verses thirty-three through thirty-six. It is a beautiful hymn, and another one of our favorites. The Holy Spirit frequently gives songs to people, not just me, and they glorify Jesus.

So there are many ways that Jesus is glorified. In this passage Jesus mentions just one of those ways that the Holy Spirit will glorify Jesus, and that is through disclosing things to the church. The Holy Spirit will take things from Jesus, and will disclose those things to believers. What things does Jesus have? He said, “All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.”

(Jn 16:14–15) “He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you. {15} All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.”

Paul elaborates on this in 1 Corinthians 2. He wrote, “For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. 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. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.” The Holy Spirit reveals things to us through our thoughts. He gives us the thoughts of God. Therefore, Paul concludes saying, “But we have the mind of Christ.” The Holy Spirit discloses to us the thoughts of God, so that we know what is on the mind of Christ. Jesus is glorified by the Holy Spirit when the Holy Spirit reveals things to us.

(1 Co 2:10–16) “For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. {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. {12} Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, {13} which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.... {16} For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.”

Conclusion and Applications

Jesus was preparing to leave, and He wanted to comfort and encourage His disciples, and He told them it was to their advantage that He leave. If He did not leave, the Holy Spirit could not come. Then He gave them three things that the Holy Spirit would be doing when He came. The first work of the Holy Spirit would be to convict the world; and He would convict the world of three things: sin, righteousness, and judgment. The Holy Spirit is with believers and in believers, and the world cannot receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit primarily works through believers to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

Our first application is to shod our feet with the preparation of the gospel. We need to have scriptures in our hearts that deal with sin, righteousness, and judgment. The Romans Road to Salvation is an excellent set of Scriptures that deal with sin (Ro 3:23), and righteousness and judgment (Ro 6:23). There are some other key scriptures like Hebrews 9:27 (judgment) and 2 Corinthians 5:21 (righteousness), and Hebrews 4:15 (righteousness). We need to be prepared to share these scriptures with the world so that they are convinced of these truths.

(Eph 6:15) “and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;”

The second work of the Holy Spirit that Jesus shared with the disciples was that the Spirit of truth would guide believers in all the truth. Our second application is to ask the Holy Spirit each day to guide us in the truth. As we begin to read the Scriptures in our quiet times, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to guide us. As we meditate on Scripture at night or some other time, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to guide us. That is part of His assignment and He welcomes the opportunity to guide us, so get in the habit of asking the Holy Spirit to guide your meditation in His word. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding, applications, insights, and examples.

The third work of the Holy Spirit was to glorify Jesus by disclosing to us what is to come. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would take from Him and disclose it to us, and that all that the Father had are His, which means that we have access to everything.

Our third application is to ask the Holy Spirit to disclose things to us. Paul said for us to earnestly desire spiritual gifts, and especially prophecy. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak prophetically to you and disclose things to you. Jesus is glorified by the prophetic disclosures that the Spirit gives us.

Closing Prayer

Father God, thank You for this passage in John. Help us to fellowship more with Your Spirit, the Spirit of truth. Help us to receive guidance in Your word and disclosures of things to come through Your Spirit. Lord, we ask You to use us in convincing the world of the gospel. Help us to shod our feet with the preparation of the gospel. Help us to be familiar with some key scriptures. We want to be ready to be used, and willing to be used. Help us to be like Isaiah, who said, “Lord, send me.” Jesus, may You be glorified in all that we do. We ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Discussion Questions

- Why did Jesus say that it was to our advantage that He go away?
- If the Holy Spirit gives you an opportunity to share the gospel with your neighbor, do you feel competent in convincing them of sin, righteousness, and judgment?
- Has the Holy Spirit ever disclosed to you some things that were going to happen in the future?
- Has the Holy Spirit ever given you some revelation and understanding about a truth in God's word? How did you receive that guidance? What were you doing at the time?
- In 2 Corinthians 13:14, Paul gave a parting blessing over the church, saying, "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all." How does the fellowship of the Holy Spirit tie in with the work of the Holy Spirit in our passage today?
- Jesus said He had many more things to say to the disciples, but they could not bear them at that time. Why were they not able to bear them at that time? Does Jesus still have many more things to say to us?

The Work of the Holy Spirit

Introduction (Jn 13:31-33, 14:16-17, 16:5-15)

1. **Convict the world** (Jn 16:5-11, 13:3, 31-33, 36, 14:2-4, 18-19, 28, 14:4-6, 14:1, Ro 15:13, 8:34, Jn 14:16-17, Mt 18:15, 1 Ti 5:20, Tt 1:13, 2:15, Lk 3:18-19, Jn 3:20, 1 Co 14:24-25, Eph 5:11-13, 2 Ti 4:2, Tt 1:9, Jud 14-15, Pr 21:1)
 - a. **Convict the world concerning sin** (Jn 16:9, Ro 5:12-13, Jas 2:10, Jn 15:22-24, Mk 16:16, Jn 8:24, Ro 3:23, Is 59:2)
 - b. **Convict the world concerning righteousness** (Jn 16:10, Ac 17:30-31, Heb 4:15)
 - c. **Convict the world concerning judgment** (Jn 12:31, 16:11, Heb 9:27, Ro 6:23)
2. **Guide us in the truth** (Jn 16:12-13, Lk 24:49, Ac 1:8, 2 Pe 1:20-21, 2 Ti 3:16-17, Jn 16:13)
3. **Glorify Jesus** (Jn 16:14-15, Jn 11:3-4, 13:31-32, 14:13, 17:5, Eph 3:20-21, Lk 24:49, Ac 1:8, 4:8-10, Eph 5:18-20, 1 Co 2:10-16)

Conclusion and Applications (Jn 16:5-15, Eph 6:15, Ro 3:23, 6:23, Heb 9:27, 2 Co 5:21, Heb 4:15)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.