

Discussion Questions

March 20, 2022



God with Us: Our Lives Empowered by His Presence

1. Read John 16:1-4 where Jesus speaks of the trials coming upon His disciples. How can this be reconciled with what Jesus says in Matthew 11:28-30?

2. Read John 16:7-10.

Jesus says it is better for the disciples to have the Holy Spirit than him physically with them because Holy Spirit will convict the world. What will He convict the world of?

- How will the Holy Spirit bring the conviction?

3. In what other ways has Jesus described the Holy Spirit being with them as better than Him being with them physically in John 14-17? (You can refer to the sermon notes from Sunday if needed)

- How has the indwelling of the Holy Spirit been an advantage in your life? Has he given you strength in times of trial? Has he given you comfort in times of grief and loss? How has He empowered you?

4. How does the Holy Spirit work through us today to draw people to Christ?

5. A Barna study was quoted on Sunday showing the difficulty most Christians have in having a natural conversation, not even sharing their faith, with those from different ideological perspectives.

- How normal is it for you to have relationships and connections with those from different backgrounds who don't know Jesus?

- Are there any areas you want to practically grow in engaging those who don't know Jesus?



John 16:5-11

But now I am going away to the one who sent me, and not one of you is asking where I am going. Instead, you grieve because of what I've told you. But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in me. Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged.

John 15:18

If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first.

John 15:20

A slave is not greater than the master. Since they persecuted me, naturally they will persecute you.

John 16:1,2

I have told you these things so that you won't abandon your faith. For you will be expelled from the synagogues, and the time is coming when those who kill you will think they are doing a holy service for God.

John 16:4

Yes, I'm telling you these things now, so that when they happen, you will remember my warning. I didn't tell you earlier because I was going to be with you for a while longer.

John 16:7

But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

Why Jesus Says having His Spirit is better than Him Physically being with them

- John 14:16 - "another Advocate/helper"
- John 14:17 - Spirit of Truth
 - Dwells within Them.
- John 14:26 - Will teach them all things & remind them of all Jesus said.
- John 15:26 - the advocate who will Testify about Jesus.
- John 16:7 - Will convict the World
- John 16:13 - Will Guide into All Truth
 - Will speak only What He hears
 - Will tell you what is to come
- John 16:14 - Will Glorify Jesus

John 15:26,27

But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me. And you must also testify about me because you have been with me from the beginning of my ministry.

John 16:8-11

*And He, when He comes, will convict the world regarding **sin**, and **righteousness**, and **judgment**: regarding sin, because they do not believe in Me; and regarding righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you no longer are going to see Me; and regarding judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.*

But now Jesus is going; how will that convicting work be continued? It is continued by the Paraclete[Advocate], who drives home this conviction in the world precisely because Jesus is no longer present to discharge this task. Undoubtedly this kind of conviction is driven home to the world primarily through Jesus' followers who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, live their lives in such growing conformity to Christ that the same impact on the world is observed as when Jesus himself lived out his life before the world.

DA Carson - Pillar New Testament Commentary

John 16:12-14

I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.