

# Presence

## (The Spirit of Truth)

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Student Guide

### **Introduction:**

We live in a world full of counterfeits. Not every person that claims to be a follower of Christ is. Many people say they love Jesus, but the Spirit of Truth does not dwell in them. A continued lifestyle of sin with no regards of God's holiness is a clear sign that the Spirit doesn't dwell in them.

In the Scriptures, Jesus teaches the Spirit of Truth will be our guide, but this is only for believers who know Jesus as the true Son of God.

### **John 16:12-14** (NVI) *Main text*

"I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13. 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. 14. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.

### **Context:**

In John 15, we see Jesus claiming to be the son of God who has the power to forgive the sins of the world and to give life in abundance.

The Pharisees claim that Jesus is a false teacher (counterfeit) and for that reason they are plotting to kill the son of God.

### **The Spirit of truth in Christ**

#### **John 15:1-4** (NIV) *The true vine*

1. "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine.

In the book of Exodus chapter 3 God uses the personal pronoun I'm, Jesus in John chapter 15, claims deity (nature) of God by using the same personal pronoun as God. Moses is called to free God's people from tyranny at the hands of the Egyptians. Moses experiences the holiness of God, and when God reveals Himself to mankind, He is seen as God.

**Exodus 3:14-15** (NIV) (*Moises Calling/I'M who I'M*)

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

15. God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' "This is my name forever; the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

Israel was known as the vine in the Old Testament, but now Jesus claims to be the true vine. Israel has forsaken God's commandments and turns to false Idols and for that, the Prophet Jeremain is called by God to pass judgement on the people of Israel.

**Jeremiah 2:21-22** (NIV) (*Wild vine*)

21. I had planted you like a choice vine of sound and reliable stock. How then did you turn against me into a corrupt, wild vine?

22. Although you wash yourself with soap and use an abundance of cleansing powder, the stain of your guilt is still before me, "declares the Sovereign LORD.

The Spirit of truth in Jesus proclaiming fulfillment of Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of Truth residing in Jesus gave Him the authority to claim fulfillment of prophecy.

**Luke 4:18-21** (NIV)

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

If the Spirit of Truth resides in us, obedience should come naturally.

**John 14:15-18** (NIV) (*The Spirit of Truth*)

15 “If you love me, keep my commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

- True love leads to obedience
- The advocate (Spirit of Truth) will demand change in your life

Then the Spirit of Truth should reconcile every area in your life that doesn't align with the word.

**John 16:7-8** (NIV) (*Advocate function*)

But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. - Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment:

**John 14:26** NIV (*This where things go wrong for many!*)

26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

As followers of Jesus, we should study the word of God because we desire to please our Father. The Advocate, known as the Spirit of truth, will teach and remind us of God's law.

- Learning requires reading and studying.
- You cannot be reminded of something that you've never studied.
- With no knowledge of God's word, we are bankrupt.
  - The excellency of the word of God has the power to change us.
  - The word of God has the power to clean

**John 15:3-5** (*The word has made you clean*)

3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in

me. 5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Reading and meditating in the word is the only way we can bear the fruits of true repentance that testifies the presence of the Spirit of truth in our lives.

A strong desire to know and obey the word of God always is what the psalmist is experiencing. If the word is always desired, there is no time for distraction.

**Psalms 119:20(NVI)**

20. My soul is consumed with longing  
for your laws at all times.

What are the worthless things in our lives, not according to our opinions, but scriptures. We spend too much time on things that don't have eternal value.

**Psalms 119:37(NVI)**

37. Turn my eyes away from worthless things;  
preserve my life according to your word.

“Hiding” the word of God in our hearts is preventing anything to take time from studying and reading the word

**Psalms 119:11(NVI)**

11. I have hidden your word in my heart  
that I might not sin against you.