



## *Sermons of the Savior*

John 16:1-15

### Lesson 20

Jesus spoke for a purpose. In these beginning verses of John 16, Jesus warned His followers of hard times that would be ahead for them. They would experience sorrows and pain unlike they had ever experienced before. He warned so they would know that He knew those things would happen. He not only knew their future, He was providing a Guide for them that they could trust. This Guide would be just like Him. He would speak nothing different than Jesus had spoken and He would glorify the Father, just as Jesus had done. May you sense His care for you as you study these verses.

#### **OBSERVATION: Read John 16:1-15**

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns that refer to the *Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit*.  
Key Words: *Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit, things, and words such as spoken/told/say/declare*
3. The contrasting words *but, however, and nevertheless*, are used eight times in John 16:1-15. Mark each time these words are used. Choose one of those times and record what is being contrasted.
4. The terms of conclusion, *therefore* and *because*, are used seven times in John 16:1-15. Mark each time these words are used. Choose one of those times and record the conclusion and what it is based upon.

5. Make a list of what this passage teaches about the Holy Spirit.

**CONSIDER THESE THINGS:**

1. How can circumstances cause us to doubt God's working in our lives?
2. How did you feel the last time you were separated from a friend by a move?
3. How does the world today express its hatred toward Jesus?

**THAT YOU SHOULD NOT BE MADE TO STUMBLE: Read John 16:1-4**

1. John 16 begins with Jesus referring to the *things* He had *spoken* to the disciples that night. Scan the previous two chapters and list a few of the *things* He *spoke* that would have been important to help them *not to stumble*.
  - a. Define the word *stumble* as it is used in John 16:1.
  - b. How have you learned to appropriate *these things* into your life to *keep from stumbling*?

2. *They will put you out of the synagogues...* (John 16:2). Using John 16:2-4, answer the following questions:

What would the people think they were doing?

Why would people do this?

Why did Jesus warn them about this?

Why didn't Jesus warn them before?

3. Jesus warned them earlier that night that *they will be made to stumble*. What did He tell them in Matthew 26:31-32?

- a. In what way did the disciples *stumble* that night?

4. It is not only knowing the *things* Jesus teaches that keeps us from *stumbling*. What can we learn from:

Matthew 26:41

Jude 1:21

5. This was not the first time Jesus told them that He was telling them *things* beforehand. Record the previous two times He said this to them and underline the reason why.

John 13:17

John 14:29

### **IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE: Read John 16:5-7**

1. The disciples had told Jesus they did not know where He was going (John 14:5). However, what had they not asked Him? John 16:5

- a. Ponder this for a moment. What do you think is the difference between declaring that you don't know something and actually asking for an answer?

2. Recall, from John 15:11, the reason Jesus was telling the disciples *these things*.
  - a. According to John 16:6, they were not experiencing *joy*. What had *filled their heart*?
  - b. Why do you think our circumstances and our thoughts sometimes overrule God's intentions for us?
  
3. Amidst all the grief and sorrow that the disciples were about to experience, what did Jesus tell them in verse 7?
  - a. The Holy Spirit is the *Promise of the Father*. What can we learn about Him from:  
Luke 24:49  
  
Acts 1:4  
  
Acts 2:33
  - b. According to Ephesians 4:8, when Jesus ascended into heaven, He *gave gifts to men*. Ephesians 4:11 lists just some of those gifts. Jesus could not send the Holy Spirit to *gift* each believer until Jesus arrived in heaven. What evidences of the Holy Spirit are there in your life that authenticate Jesus' arrival (that show you the Holy Spirit is present in your life)?

**WHEN HE (THE HOLY SPIRIT) HAS COME, THERE IS CONVICTION:**

**Read John 16:8-11**

1. Of what three things does the Holy Spirit convict?
  
2. John 16:9-11 each contain the word *because*. Complete each sentence below which provides the reason behind each *conviction*.  
*of sin, because*  
  
*of righteousness, because*  
  
*of judgment, because*

3. The Holy Spirit is the *Spirit of truth* (John 14:17). *Sin* is the truth about man. *Righteousness* is the truth about God. *Judgment* is the truth of the inevitable combination of the truth about man and the truth about God. What have you learned about yourself in regards to *sin*?
  - a. What have you learned about God in regards to His *righteousness*?
  - b. Using Revelation 20:11-15, describe judgment day.
4. Why do you think these three *things* – *sin*, *righteousness*, and *judgment*, cannot really be understood outside of the *conviction* of the Holy Spirit?

### **WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS COME THERE IS GUIDANCE:**

#### **Read John 16:12-15**

1. *I have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now* (John 16:12). What are some synonyms for the word *bear*?
  - a. What do you think Jesus was referring to about the disciples?
2. John 16:13 begins with the word *however*. Consider this word. What impact might it have had for the disciples in their state of *sorrow*?
3. Although the Holy Spirit continues to have the role of *convicting* in the life of a believer, what other *things* can the believer expect from *Him*? verses 13,14
  - a. In your own words, explain this role of the Holy Spirit.

4. What phrase is repeated in John 16:14 and 15?
  - a. What are some synonyms for the word *declare*?
  - b. What will all of the *things* that the Holy Spirit *declares* do?
    - 1.) In what ways does knowing that the *Holy Spirit* will *glorify* Jesus help you to feel safe with Him?

**REVIEW: Read John 16:1-15**

1. How has this lesson challenged you or encouraged you when you are facing sorrow or things that are unknown to you?
2. About what truth is the Holy Spirit presently teaching you?
3. In what ways did you experience the conviction of the Holy Spirit before you were saved?

*By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us,  
because He has given us of His Spirit.  
- 1 John 4:13*

## Observation Worksheet

### John 16:1-15

"These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. <sup>2</sup> They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. <sup>3</sup> And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. <sup>4</sup> But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them. And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup> "But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' <sup>6</sup> But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. <sup>7</sup> 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 depart, I will send Him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: <sup>9</sup> of sin, because they do not believe in Me; <sup>10</sup> of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; <sup>11</sup> of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. <sup>12</sup> I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup> However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.