

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

John 16:5-33

Key Verse: 16:13a

1. Read verses 5-7. Where was Jesus going? Why was it to the disciples' advantage that he go? Why could the Holy Spirit not come unless he left?

2. Read verses 8-11. About what does the Holy Spirit convict the world? Think about sin, righteousness and judgment. What is the greatest sin? How does his going to the Father reveal righteousness? Why does the prince of this world stand condemned? (Jn 12:31; 14:30)

3. Read verses 12-15. Why must disciples continue learning and growing? What does the Holy Spirit teach? How does he bring glory to Jesus? How does dependence on the Spirit of truth, the Holy Spirit, make disciples truly free?

4. Read verses 16-22. What did Jesus mean by "In a little while" and "after a little while"? Why does he compare his imminent departure to childbirth? What will be the cause of their grief? Of their joy?

5. Read verses 23-24. What does Jesus promise? What had the disciples' prayer life been like before? What change would Jesus' death and resurrection make? Read verses 25-28. Why must we pray? Why pray in Jesus' name?

6. Read verses 29-33. What is the point that the disciples finally grasped? Why is this so important? How did Jesus equip them to meet the coming difficulties? What was Jesus' personal faith and assurance? What is our assurance of victory?