

“I Am the Resurrection and the Life”



The Gospel of John


John 16:5–15

Read John 16:5–7.

1. What has Jesus repeatedly told the disciples that has filled them with grief? (vv. 5, 16; Jn. 13:33, 36)
2. When Jesus talks about leaving the disciples and returning to his Father, he is talking about an entire series of events: his death, his resurrection, and finally his ascension.
 - a. What does Jesus promise them about his departure? (v. 7a)
 - b. Why will this be true? (v. 7b; Jn. 14:16–18)

Read John 16:8–11.


3. The Counselor that Jesus promises to send will resume Jesus’ evangelistic ministry on earth and will help the disciples (and us) to complete it (Jn. 15:26–27).
What is the Counselor’s role in the world? (v. 8)
4. In this context, the verb “convict” literally means “to show someone his sin and to summon him to repentance.”¹ “‘Expose’ is probably the best single term”² because it carries the same meanings as “convict,” but can also mean “reveal.”
 - a. What is **the** sin that the Counselor will expose? (v. 9; Jn. 15:22–25; * Jn. 3:16–21)
 - b. What truth will the Counselor continue to expose about who Jesus is and what was done to him, even when Jesus is no longer physically present? (v. 10; Acts 3:14–15; 7:51–53; 1 Pet. 3:18–19)
 - c. What truth will the Counselor continue to expose about “the prince of this world” (v. 11) and all those who follow him? (v. 11; Jn. 12:30–31; Rom. 2:5–6, 8;  Rev. 20:10)

*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.

¹ George R. Beasley-Murray, *Word Biblical Commentary Volume 36 (Second Edition): John*, (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2000), 280.

² Bruce Milne, *The Bible Speaks Today: The Message of John*, (Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1984), 230.

5. How will the disciples (and us) be partners with the Counselor in this ministry of conviction and exposure? (Jn. 15:26–27; Acts 2:14, 22–24, 38; 10:42)

6. How do we see the Holy Spirit at work in the disciples’ preaching in the early church? (Acts 2:37, 41; 10:44–46;  Acts 24:24–25)

7. Think about people you know who need to believe in Jesus. How does the Counselor’s work take some of the pressure off you to come up with an eloquent and convincing gospel presentation?

Read John 16:12–16.

8. The disciples are unable to process most of what Jesus has been saying to them on this eventful night (v. 12).
 - a. How will the Counselor, the Spirit of truth, help them after Jesus leaves? (vv. 13–15; Jn. 14:26)

 - b. Why is this particularly comforting for the disciples, especially someone like John, the writer of this gospel?

9. What will the Spirit of truth **not** do? (v. 13b)

10. The Spirit’s job is to constantly redirect our focus back onto who Jesus is and what he has done, so we can **know** Jesus better. How is this ‘knowing’ much deeper than simple information about Jesus? (Phil. 3:7–11; 1 Jn. 2:1–6)

11. How has the Spirit of truth been working in you--convicting, exposing, and revealing--as you have studied the Bible?

12. Write a brief summary of the good news that you could share with someone about Jesus using these three points:
Sin
Righteousness
Judgment