

# That You May Believe – Gospel of John

## John 16:4b - 33

"The Help of the Holy Spirit" – October 17, 2021



### **Introduction**

As a Christian, are there times when you feel hopeless? Are there days when the burdens of life leave you feeling crushed? When you find yourself in that situation, you can feel like there is no hope. In the Upper Room discourse, the disciples were misunderstanding Jesus' message to them, and it was leading to despair. Painful loss that comes from a sovereign God who loves us can be the pathway to true joy. If painful loss is God's path for our gain, how can we trust Him?

### **Pray**

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

### **Sermon Outline**

- I. Rely on the work of the Holy Spirit. Vs 4b-15
- II. Rejoice in Christian hope. Vs. 16-33

### **Read & Discuss**

- 1) Read 16:4b – 15

The Holy Spirit is the One to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgement. Sin is rebellion against a holy God. Out of a heart of love and a desire to rescue from sin, the Spirit convicts. The Spirit also shows us that the standard of righteousness is not how we measure up to others, but it is Jesus. In order for God to be forgiving and just, Jesus would take the punishment on the cross that we deserve. The cross shows how serious sin is and how much God loves us. Third, the Spirit convicts of judgement. The world was misjudged and devalued Jesus, sending Him to the cross, but by the Spirit, we can see the truth of what is right and just, and Who Jesus really is. The Holy Spirit convicts, raises the spiritual dead to life, and gives believers a heart of love for God. We cannot do the work of the Holy Spirit. We deliver God's message, seek to live holy lives that align with the message, and pray for those who need Christ. The Holy Spirit does the work.

The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth. While on earth, Jesus taught and lovingly guided in the truth. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit will pick up where Jesus left off to continue the mission. One ministry of the Spirit is the ministry of inspiration - the unique ministry of the Spirit to guide the Apostles in writing the New Testament. Today, the Holy Spirit has the ministry of illumination. When we read scripture, with the help of the Spirit we understand it, and we are transformed by it. This leads to the glory of God. But we are in a battle with Satan who wants to "steal, kill, and destroy" and will stop at nothing to keep us from the Word.

How does the world make it hard for us to be Christians? How does knowing the Holy Spirit role in salvation help you in your evangelism? What steps can you take this week to read, study, and memorize God's word?

**Additional Reading:** 2 Peter 1:19-21, Psalm 119:105, John 10:10

## 2) Read 16:16-33

Christian hope is rooted in history. The cross was going to bring confusion and sorrow, but that very thing will bring the greatest joy. We know that the Bible is true because of the resurrection. Jesus told the disciples that He would die, but He also told them that they would see Him again. They would see Him resurrected. After the resurrection, Christianity exploded. The events recorded in the New Testament point to the truth.

Christian hope is also sustained in the present. It is sustained by prayer. We can come to God in prayer to unburden our hearts. It is His gift to us. We can pray the scripture to move the truths of His word from our heads to our hearts. We have access to God because of Jesus and pray as His beloved sons and daughters.

Christian hope is also guaranteed for the future. Jesus has overcome the world! He overcame the world for our sake as well as His. When we trust Jesus by faith, His triumph becomes ours as well. You will face tribulation; the world will hate you; you will know incredible sorrow in this life. He may not remove the source of your sorrow. But he can turn our sorrow into joy.

What burdens your heart today? What scripture that you can pray in regards to that burden? Where is our peace found? How in the midst of overwhelming tribulation can we take heart?

**Additional Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:3 – 8; John 14:13-14; 15:16; 16:23-24, 26; Psalm 30:1-12; Colossians 2:1-15

### **Prayer of Response**

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

<b>*Next week's sermon text:</b> we turn to <a href="#">John 17:1-26</a> <b>"Jesus is Praying"</b>
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