

### Discussion Guide

*Use this guide by yourself, with a friend, or in a group to help you pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus this week!*

#### Open

In this week's message, Jeff Pruitt (Gateway's Children and Young Families Pastor) continues our *Unexpected Messiah* series by looking at Jesus' teaching on the role of the Holy Spirit. John chapter 16 is a continuation of Jesus' final instructions to the disciples during His last night with them before His crucifixion and resurrection, and by recording the conversation John provides us with an intimate glimpse into how Jesus wanted to prepare them for the changes His upcoming departure would bring. To get your group started, let everyone share how they tend to handle goodbyes with friends or family - and is it harder for you to be the one to leave or the one who stays?

#### BIG THOUGHT

Jesus wanted the disciples (and us) to know that we can depend on the Holy Spirit to be our ever-present guide and connection with Him.

1. Read John 16:5-6. While it was obvious to the disciples that Jesus was going to be leaving them, what question did they NOT ask? Why do you think Jesus makes a note of this - to confuse them? Prompt them? Show that they're missing the big picture? Something else? And what does He acknowledge in v. 6?
2. Now read v. 7. How would you have felt if you were one of the disciples and heard Jesus say that it was better for Him to go away? When Jesus referred to the Advocate / Counselor / Comforter, do you think the disciples thought Jesus was saying that another *person* would show up to lead them? Explain your thoughts...

3. Read v. 8-11. What are the three tasks that Jesus says this new Helper will be specifically responsible to accomplish? Do you still feel like you can see this work happening today in the world? Why or why not? And how did Jesus ultimately prove that the "ruler of this world" (a reference to Satan) was judged (see Colossians 2:15)?
4. Read v. 12. How can this verse bring us comfort as we face our own times of troubles? And how does it line up with what Jesus said in Matthew 11:28-30?
5. Now read v. 13-15. What other task will the Holy Spirit perform? Who will He speak for? And what do you think Jesus meant when He said the Holy Spirit will "tell you about the future"? Do you think that's still possible today? Who will the Holy Spirit be receiving instructions from? (v. 14-15)

#### Take it Further

Talk with God and ask Him to help you follow the prompting and leading of the Holy Spirit more closely.

#### Daily Verse Readings

Day 1: Isaiah 11:2

Day 2: Romans 8:26-27

Day 3: 1 Corinthians 3:16

Day 4: John 15:26

Day 5: Acts 1:8

Day 6: Galatians 4:6

Memory Verse: John 16:13



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