

SERMON OUTLINE John 15:26-16:4a

When the Helper Comes, More Help Comes

WHEN THE HELPER COMES, MORE HELP COMES

The Spirit Will Bear Witness about Jesus (15:26)

The Spirit Will Empower Jesus' Followers to Bear Witness about Jesus (15:27)

The Spirit Will Keep Jesus' Followers from Falling (16:1-3)

The Spirit Will Remind Jesus' Followers of Jesus' Promises, So that Jesus' Power Will Be Clear (16:4)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this passage is that the Helper will help us when honoring God is costly. And the main takeaway is to courageously live godly lives in complete confidence that the Spirit makes every righteous risk right.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Have you ever felt hated because of your love for and obedience to Jesus? What happened?
3. Have you experienced any recent persecution? What is the most significant help you've ever received in your persecution?
4. What is the most significant persecution you can realistically imagine experiencing in your life? What is the most significant help you can imagine receiving in that persecution?
5. How often are you conscious of the Holy Spirit's presence and work in you? Have you ever clearly experienced His help?
6. Does having to obey someone make you feel inferior to them? How does the Spirit's obedience relate to your answer?
7. Is it normal for you to praise God for the simple acts of kindness you see in the world?
8. Do you bear witness to Jesus often? Why/not?
9. What do you do when you are struggling in your faith? Have you ever felt like you might walk away from it?
10. Which of the four Helper helps named by Jesus has been or seems like it would be most helpful to you?
11. In what ways did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

12. Take some time this week to reread John 1-15. Make notes of anything that stands out.
13. Slow down and notice the many times in your week where the common grace witness of the Spirit is present.
14. Pray earnestly for the Spirit to work in a specific person who is not trusting in Jesus. Share the gospel with that person.
15. Obey Jesus in a specific, "risky" way this week—in a way that doesn't make sense apart from your trust in Jesus' promises and belief in the certain help of the Helper. Invite someone from your family or DG to join you in this obedience.
16. Ask someone from your DG to pray for you to see the many ways the promises of Jesus are kept in your life this week.
17. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
18. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon? Share that and pray about it with someone in your DG. Continue praying for and checking in with each other until you've both done it.

PRAYER POINTS

19. Adoration. Praise God for being Father, Son, and Spirit. Praise God for being obedient and true. Praise God for His continual, gracious, good, and sufficient help for His people. Praise the Spirit for being a perfect promise keeper.
20. Confess. Confess a sense of self-sufficiency. Confess apathy to or doubt of the Spirit's help. Confess evangelistic indifference or debilitating fear. Confess taking your perseverance or the sweetness of God's common grace for granted.
21. Thanksgiving. Thank God for constant benefits of the Spirit's constant witness in your life. Thank the Spirit for coming. Thank God for the person who share the gospel with you and for the freedom to share the gospel yourself. Thank God for His perfect and sufficient help. Thank the Spirit for granting you belief and keeping you in it.
22. Supplication. Ask God to save specific people in your life. Ask God to grant us greater awareness of His good work all around us. Ask God to help someone who is struggling in their faith; to remind them of what's true and strengthen their trust in it.