

THE PARAKLETE

INTRODUCTION

John 12-20 describes the last week of Jesus' life. Even though these chapters comprise almost half of John's Gospel, they record the events that take place over the course of a few days. Therefore, a big portion of the material in them is devoted to the subject of Jesus' death and the things that transpired leading up to it. John 16 gives us one of those episodes when it tells us how Jesus spoke to His followers about what they could expect to encounter once He leaves them: the Holy Spirit. Jesus would not abandon them to their own devices. He would send them a *paraklete* which is what we are going to talk about this morning by looking at "4 Roles that the Holy Spirit will Play in the Lives of the Disciples after Jesus' Departure."

1). The Role of a Helper (verses 5-7).

Verses 5-7 says, *"But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you."*

Discussion Question A: What does the expression "for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you" mean?

Discussion Question B: How would the Holy Spirit be a Helper to the disciples after Jesus left? How is He a Helper to the church today?

2). The Role of a Convicter (verses 8-11).

Verse 8 says, *"And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment."*

Discussion Question A: Jesus tells the disciples that the Holy Spirit will convict the world but what does the term "world" refer to in these verses?

Discussion Question B: Why was it necessary for the Holy Spirit to do this? Why is it still necessary for Him to "convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment" today?

3). The Role of a Guide (verses 12-13).

Verses 12-13 says, *“I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.”*

Discussion Question A: Explain these verses in your own words and what they have to do with the process of divine inspiration.

Discussion Question B: Is this passage teaching that Christians today are going to receive new revelation from God through things like prophecies? Why / Why not?

4). The Role of the One Who Glorifies Christ (verses 14-15).

Verses 14-15 says, *“He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.”*

Discussion Question A: The term “glorify” is another interesting one in this passage. How did the sermon define it?

Discussion Question B: If someone told you that they were struggling to glorify Christ, what advice would you give them in light of this sermon?