

Preparing the Disciples for Service (John 16:1-15)

I. The Preparation of the Disciples (1-7)

A. Preparing for Persecution (1-4a)

1. Jesus warns them so they will not fall away (1)
 - a. Jesus spoke “these things” so they would not stumble.
 - i. “these things” are the warnings in chapter 15 about being hated and persecuted
 - ii. Jesus didn’t want them to face persecution without understanding it was coming
 - iii. If Jesus hadn’t warned them, they may have been tempted to think he didn’t know
 - iv. Ministry will always bring persecution – we should know this up front
 - v. We can’t go into the hostile world thinking no one will ever oppose us – everyone will.
 - b. Jesus spoke “these things” to encourage them
 - i. They will not face discouragement if Jesus tells them up front these things will happen
 - ii. Persecution is part of the deal

2. Jesus warns them of persecution (2-3)

- a. Persecutors will afflict you in God’s name (2)
 - i. The disciples would be excommunicated from the synagogues
 - a. This may not seem like a big deal to us, but to a Jewish man, it means everything
 - b. This would include being cutt off from one’s family and being seen as an outcast
 - c. People would no longer do business with members thrown out of the synagogue
 - d. Excommunication effectively cut off Jewish people from their heritage and community
 - ii. The disciples would be persecuted in God’s name
 - a. Religious persecution is the most common type of persecution of Christians
 - b. Religious men always think they are doing God’s will when they persecute believers
 - c. The greatest persecutors of the church in the book of Acts were Jews
 - d. Today, people believe in an all loving, non-judging God and accuse the brethren of “hatred” and “bigotry” in their god’s name.

b. Persecutors do not truly know God (3)

- i. Men persecute God's church because they don't know Him personally
 - ii. Satan is an accuser of the brethren – men align with him when they also accuse the brethren
 - iii. True salvation leads to a love for the church (John 13:35)
 - 3. Jesus warns them to Build their resolve (4a)
 - a. Jesus told them “these things” so they would be ready when the time came
 - b. Jesus told them “these things” so they would remember and would be expecting them
- B. Preparing for the Spirit's coming (4b-7)
 - 1. Jesus' Departure is Imminent (4b)
 - a. Jesus didn't tell them all these things from the beginning
 - b. These things were kept from them because Jesus was with them
 - c. Jesus led and guided them as he taught them on earth
 - d. Now Jesus is leaving them and they need to know what's coming
 - 2. The Disciples Lament Jesus' Departure (5-6)
 - a. The disciples don't understand the importance of Jesus' departure (5)
 - i. Jesus says he is going to the Father
 - ii. Jesus notes that the disciples are not asking the right question
 - a. They are not asking “where” he is going
 - b. This may seem contradictory because Peter had earlier asked where Jesus was going (John 13:36)
 - 1. –Peter was not concerned about where Jesus was going. He was concerned that Jesus was leaving
 - 2. –Peter never has Jesus' destination explained to him. He only had the consequences of Jesus' departure on his mind.
 - c. Jesus will demonstrate the importance and benefit of his leaving to them.
 - b. The Disciples are sad Jesus is leaving (6)
 - i. They don't understand why Jesus is leaving
 - ii. Their hearts are filled with sorrow
 - iii. They don't understand the plan of God yet
 - iv. They think their world is coming to an end
 - 3. The Disciples will Benefit from Jesus' Departure (7-8)
 - a. Jesus tells them it is for their benefit (expedient) that he goes away (to the cross and to the Father)

- b. Jesus must go to the Father for the Spirit to come
- c. Jesus Himself with the Father will send the Spirit
 - i. Jesus knew that the Spirit inside of them would be what changed their hearts and lives
 - ii. Jesus knew that the Spirit inside of them would reveal much more of Him than his presence ever could
 - iii. Jesus knew that instead of frightened students, they would become Apostles wielding the very words of God

II. The Work of the Holy Spirit (8-15)

A. The Spirit will Convict the World (8-11)

1. The Holy Spirit will convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment (8)
2. The Holy Spirit convicts men of sin (9)
 - a. Men will not recognize their sin unless drawn by the Holy Spirit
 - b. Men may admit there is sin and they are sinners, but man will not feel the weight and guilt of their sin without the conviction of the Holy Spirit
 - c. Men are convicted of sin because they do not believe in Christ – unbelief means man will be judged in his sin
3. The Holy Spirit Convicts men of Righteousness (10)
 - a. Men will not recognize the righteousness of Christ without the Holy Spirit
 - b. Jesus resurrection and ascension to the Father proved that the Father had accepted His payment of righteousness
 - c. The fact that Jesus was accepted at the Father's right hand gives proof that the Father accepted the righteousness of Christ as payment for sin
 - d. The Holy Spirit applies this righteousness to men
4. The Holy Spirit Convicts men of Judgment (11)
 - a. The evil one – and all evil – is judged at the cross
 - b. The Holy Spirit reveals and convicts men of sin, but also convinces men that sin will end in judgment
 - c. Men are sons of the devil (John 8:44) until the Spirit applies Christ's death and resurrection to their lives.

B. The Holy Spirit will Guide the Disciples (12-15)

1. The Holy Spirit will teach Jesus' disciples (12-13a)
 - a. Jesus is leaving without telling them everything
 - b. They cannot bear to hear everything now
 - c. The Spirit will guide them into all Truth
 - i. The Spirit will inspire them to write the Scripture
 - ii. The Spirit will bear witness with our Spirit

- iii. The Spirit will speak to God's children through the Scripture
- 2. The Holy Spirit will Reveal More of Jesus (13b-15)
 - a. The Holy Spirit will Disclose God's words (13b)
 - i. He will not speak of His own
 - ii. He will speak what He hears from the Father and Son
 - iii. He will reveal what is coming
 - b. The Holy Spirit will Glorify Jesus (14-15)
 - i. The Spirit will specifically glorify Jesus
 - ii. The Spirit will reveal what Jesus has to the disciples
 - iii. The Spirit will reveal more and more of Jesus in the life of believers
 - iv. The Spirit will reveal more of what the Father is in the life of believers