

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

***The Work of the Holy Spirit***

John 16:4b–15 (NIV)

This week, we will focus on Jesus' final teaching about the Holy Spirit before the cross. In John 16, Jesus explains why it is actually for our benefit that He returns to the Father. The Holy Spirit continues Christ's work—convicting the world, revealing righteousness, declaring judgment, guiding believers into truth, and glorifying Jesus.

**1. SERMON OUTLINE**

- a. The Spirit Will Convict the World of Their Sin (John 16:8–11)
  - i. The ultimate sin is refusing to believe in Jesus (John 3:18).
  - ii. The Spirit reveals that we are sinful creatures in need of forgiveness.
  - iii. Like a courtroom conviction, the Spirit exposes guilt—but with the goal of salvation.
- b. The Spirit Will Convince People of Their Need to Have this Perfect Righteousness of Jesus
  - i. Christ's righteousness is perfect and divine (Matthew 5:20, 48).
  - ii. Jesus' return to the Father proves His acceptance and holiness (Philippians 2:9).
  - iii. We are clothed in His righteousness by grace alone when we believe.
- c. The Holy Spirit Will Convict the World in Judgement
  - i. Satan, the ruler of this world, has already been judged (John 16:11; Revelation 20:10).
  - ii. The cross defeated him, though final judgment is still coming.
  - iii. Only two responses: repentance or rejection.

**2. SUNDAY AFTERNOON** - As soon as possible after the sermon, consider:

- a. What stood out most about the Spirit's work—conviction, righteousness, judgment, or guidance?
- b. Did you better understand why Jesus said it was “for your benefit” that He went away?
- c. Read John 16:8–11 again slowly. What word or phrase grips your heart?
- d. Is there an area where the Spirit is convicting you?
- e. Are you responding with repentance or resistance?

**3. MONDAY:**

- a. Reread John 16:4b-16 in at least two translations. Notice repetition: “He will...”
  - i. What three things does the Spirit convict the world of?
  - ii. What does this reveal about God's holiness?
  - iii. What does it reveal about humanity's condition?
  - iv. Why is unbelief considered the ultimate sin?
- b. Look up the following cross-references. How do the verses reinforce Jesus' teaching?
  - i. John 3:18 (Condemnation and belief)
  - ii. Matthew 5:48 (God's perfect standard)
  - iii. Philippians 2:9 (Christ exalted)

c. Reflect on John 16:4b-15

- i. What does this passage teach about the Trinity?
- ii. How does the Spirit's role protect us from error?
- iii. Why is righteousness something we receive, not achieve?

d. Personal Reflection: *Are you trusting in your own righteousness—or Christ's?*

4. **TUESDAY:**

a. Read Habakkuk 1:13 and Psalm 19:7–11.

- i. What does Habakkuk reveal about God's purity?
- ii. Why must righteousness be perfect to stand before Him?
- iii. How does Psalm 19 describe the power and beauty of God's Word?

b. Reflect on how the Spirit uses Scripture to:

- i. Revive the soul
- ii. Make the simple wise
- iii. Rejoice the heart

5. **WEDNESDAY:**

a. Focus on John 16:8–9.

- i. What does "convict" mean in a judicial sense?
- ii. How is spiritual conviction different from shame or guilt manipulation?
- iii. What is the Spirit's goal in convicting?

b. Compare John 16:8-9 to 1 Corinthians 14:24. How does conviction lead either to repentance or rejection? Ask yourself, is the Spirit exposing something in your life to restore you?

6. **THURSDAY:**

a. Read 2 Timothy 2:15 and 2 Peter 3:14–18.

- i. Why must believers study Scripture carefully?
- ii. How do people distort difficult passages today? Think of one example.
- iii. How does being filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18) affect Bible study?

b. Practical Steps for Every Believer:

- i. Choose a Bible translation and commit to daily reading.

- ii. Memorize one verse from John 16 this week.
- iii. When convicted, respond immediately with repentance.
- c. Did you know that your understanding of doctrine, or lack thereof, affects daily life? It will affect the confidence that comes from Christ's righteousness, the stability that comes from truth, and the spiritual growth that comes from obedience.

**7. FRIDAY:**

- a. Meditate on the Holy Spirit's promises. He will always guide you and glorify Christ.
- b. Remember, followers of the Lord Jesus Christ are commanded to:
  - i. Study the Word. (Do you study the Bible every day? In addition to reading your Bible every day, you should also study your Bible every day. Do you own a Concordance? Do you have a Bible Dictionary? What are your GO TO commentaries?)
  - ii. Grow in grace (2 Peter 3:18). Define the term Grace.
  - iii. Walk in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16). What does it mean to walk in the Spirit? Are you walking in the Spirit every day?
- c. Reflect on the following questions:
  - i. How did Jesus model obedience to the Father?
  - ii. What would it look like for Christ to be glorified in your speech this week?
  - iii. Does your love for Scripture reflect the Spirit's work in you?

**8. SATURDAY:**

- a. Reread John 16:4b–15.
  - i. Which verse is most significant to you?
  - ii. What does this passage reveal about the Spirit's ongoing work in your life?
  - iii. Is Christ being glorified in your life?
- b. Are you willing to make a personal commitment?
  - i. Will you respond to conviction with repentance?
  - ii. Will you depend on Christ's righteousness alone?
  - iii. Will you pursue truth through the daily reading and study of Scripture?

**9. APPLICATION:**

- a. Christians live in a world that redefines sin, questions truth, and resists judgment. Yet the Spirit still convicts, still reveals Christ's righteousness, and still exposes false systems. Let us all strive to model repentance openly. Let us teach our children and

grandchildren that righteousness comes from Christ. At Lake Ridge Baptist Church, let us value faithful teaching, preaching, and sound doctrine. Let us stand firm in truth with gentleness and compassion.

- b. As followers of Christ, let us commit ourselves to reading, studying, and memorizing God's Word and then let us LIVE IT! When you fail, repent, forsake, and begin again to depend on the Holy Spirit.

10. **PRAYER FOCUS:** Unreached People Group: Baloch

- a. Location: Primarily in Pakistan, also in Iran and Afghanistan  
Population: Approximately 10–15 million  
Religion: Predominantly Sunni Islam  
Language: Balochi
- b. Spiritual Barriers:
  - i. Strong tribal and clan identity tied closely to Islam
  - ii. Geographic isolation in desert and mountainous regions
  - iii. Very limited access to churches and trained Christian leaders
  - iv. Social and family persecution for those who consider Christ
- c. Prayer Requests:
  - i. That the Holy Spirit would convict of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8–11).
  - ii. That many Baloch would encounter the truth of Jesus through Scripture, radio, or personal witness.
  - iii. For courage and protection for the few believers living among them.
  - iv. For faithful Bible translation, distribution, and discipleship resources in the Balochi language.
  - v. That Christ would be glorified among the tribes and clans of the Baloch people.
  - vi. Prayer: *Holy Spirit, bring conviction and reveal truth. We ask that You move among the Baloch people. Open hearts. Remove fear. Raise up bold witnesses. Let Christ be glorified in their land and among their families. Guide us also into all truth and make us faithful to pray for the nations. Amen.*