

# THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

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## GOD BECAME MAN

## WEEK 24

March 14 & 15

### The Role of the Holy Spirit

*This sermon study is designed to be used the week after the sermon it supplements. Before using the study in your life group, it might be helpful to work through the questions on your own before your group meets. The purpose of this guide is to help facilitate discussion and to help your group, collectively and individually, grow closer to Jesus.*

#### SERIES RECAP

Back in August, we started going through the gospel of John and left off in chapter 9. John's gospel is unique from Matthew, Mark and Luke in that John was one of Jesus' first followers and closest friends, and was written around A.D. 85. In his writing, John's primary aim is to persuade skeptics that Jesus is the Christ and the Son of God (20:30-31).

#### SERMON SUMMARY

As we close out John 14, we see Jesus preparing to leave His disciples. John 14 is the very end of the last supper, and in chapters 15 and 16, we see Jesus and the disciples heading into the garden of Gethsemane. Jesus leaves the disciples (and us) with a promise: that because of the Holy Spirit, we will never be alone.

#### MAIN TEXT

John 14:15-27 and 16:5-15

#### GETTING STARTED

Have you ever moved away from family or friends and had to say goodbye? How did it go?

#### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read John 14:15-27 and 16:5-15 out loud as a group. What did Jesus mean when He said that He would not leave us as orphans? Does that truth change your relationship with Him? If so, how?
2. In this passage, we see that the disciples were afraid to be alone. Have you ever felt spiritually alone? If so, share your example with the group. Do you allow the Holy Spirit to be your comforter in times

of need, or do you find yourself being fearful and trying to live life on your own?

3. Before learning about the Holy Spirit, who did you think He was and what did you believe His roles were?
4. Jesus told the disciples that they were better off with Him leaving so that the Holy Spirit could come. To the disciples, what were the differences between Jesus in the flesh and the Holy Spirit? How were their lives going to be different with this role change? Why do you think it was better for them to acquire the Holy Spirit?
5. One role of the Holy Spirit is to convict the world of sin. Conviction and condemnation are two different things. Do you view conviction as a negative thing or as an act of grace? What does it look like to see conviction as an act of grace?
6. Read Romans 8:14-17. Another role of the Holy Spirit is to give us assurance. What are some biblical promises that the Holy Spirit has reminded you of in the past? How have these reminders made a difference in your life?

#### NEXT STEPS

We learned this weekend that obedience is a response to the love of Jesus, and that it is something we get to do, not something we have to do.

Discuss as a group: *Do you feel a nudge from the Holy Spirit to do something out of the ordinary?* Be intentional about taking that step of obedience before your next group meeting.

Consider the following question on your own: *Do you love Jesus for who He is, or do you love Him because of what He can do for you?*