The Holy Spirit, Lesson 4

THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US KNOW THE TRUTH

John 16:5–33

Key Verse: 16:13a

1. Look at verse 5a. Where was Jesus going? Look at verses 5b-6. What does Jesus’ comment show about what was on the disciples’ minds? (1-3) Look at verse 7. Who is the “Advocate” or “Encourager”? (14:16-17, 26-27; 15:26-27) Why was it a “good” thing that Jesus was leaving his disciples? What would they gain?
2. Look at verse 8. What will the Advocate do when he comes? Why? (3:19-20; 15:18,25) How will the Advocate prove the world to be wrong about sin? (9) About righteousness? (10) Judgment? (11) How would this be an encouragement to the disciples? To us?
3. Look at verse 12. How can the truth be overwhelming to bear and understand? (25; 3:11-12) Read verse 13a. What is the difference between “knowing” and being “guided to” the truth? What does Jesus mean by “all the truth”?
4. Look at verse 13. How is the Advocate the “spirit of truth”? (15:26) Look at 13b. How does the spirit of truth “speak on what he hears” and tell “what is yet to come”? Look at verses 14-15. What can we learn here about how God communicates truth to us? Practically, how can we be guided by “the spirit of truth” into “all the truth”?

1. Look at verse 16. What is Jesus predicting? Why did the disciples not understand? (17-18) How does this illustrate the disciples’ need for the spirit of truth? (7,13). How does Jesus comfort his disciples? (19-21) How can we today relate to the disciples “grief” of not having the physical Jesus with us? What does Jesus promise? (22-24). How is this encouraging?
2. Look at verse 25. How do we now understand God and how will we come to understand God the Father? (25b) Why? (26-28) How were the disciples comforted? (29-30) What was Jesus’ sobering prediction? (31-32) How can we have peace in a world of trouble? (33, 13)