

Christ-Followers Are Spirit-Led

In This Series We Are Learning That...

1. True believers have identifying, unmistakable characteristics.
2. Each of us should evaluate ourselves based on these characteristics and then ask ourselves if we are truly “remaining” in Christ.

Some Background

Jesus is in the Upper Room with eleven disciples celebrating the Passover in what we call “The Last Supper”. He is giving them final instructions.

The key thought of this entire section is to remain in Him.

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.” - John 15:4

The Plan

*“Now I am going to Him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’
⁶Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief.”* - John 16:5,6

Jesus tells the disciples that He will go to the One who sent Him. (Trinity)

Jesus’ concern is that none of them is troubled for Him.

“Now I am going to Him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’” - v. 5
“Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” - John 14:5

“Simon Peter asked Him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus replied, “Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.” - John 13:36

Jesus was saying that His departure was only of selfish concern to the Apostles.

“Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief.” - John 16:6

The Purpose

“But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. ⁸When He comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; ¹⁰in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.” - John 16:7-11

But Jesus wanted the disciples to see the positive side of His departure and He said that it was a **good** thing for the disciples! Why?

1. His departure allows for the coming of the **Holy Spirit**.
Note that Jesus is the one that sends the Holy Spirit.
2. The Holy Spirit will convict (and convince) the world of guilt. This is a legal term. *elegchō*

*Remember that we can bring Christ to people,
 but only the Holy Spirit can bring people to Christ.*

3. The Holy Spirit will convict of three things: sin, righteousness and judgment.

“When He comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; ¹⁰in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.” - John 16:8-11

- Sin — the Sin of unbelief (note that this word is not plural).
- Righteousness — only Christ is perfectly righteous.
“All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.” - Isaiah 64:6
- Judgment — because Satan has been condemned.

The Product

“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. ¹⁵All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.” - John 16:12-15

Jesus could have told the disciples much more about this, but they weren’t ready to handle it.

In teaching we must always consider readiness and timing.

The Spirit of Truth would complete the teaching. The work of the Holy Spirit is to tell or to make an announcement.

αναγγελλῶ — anaggellō — 1) to announce, make known

1. He will guide into all Truth.
2. He will speak what He hears (as Jesus did).
“For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.” - John 12:49
He will not speak on His own. His words are from the Father!
3. He will tell of what is to come.
4. He will bring glory to Christ.
Be careful about ministries whose highest priority is the Holy Spirit!
5. He will confirm and clarify the teachings of Jesus.

ASK YOURSELF: Do I sense the presence of the Holy Spirit?

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