

# JESUS, CONTINUED ...

## LESSON 1: WHY "GOD IN US" IS BETTER

### John 16:7 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup> I tell you the truth: **it is to your advantage** that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

CONTEXT: John 16:1-3

*What does Jesus tell them to assure and comfort them?*

*What does this tell us about the importance of the Spirit's work?*

### ACTIVITIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

- He will \_\_\_\_\_ the disciples.

*How?*

- He will \_\_\_\_\_ the world.

*Of?*

*What is the effect of this action on their mission?*

- He will \_\_\_\_\_ us into all truth.

*What does this tell us about the limits of our knowledge? (See Ephesians 3:14-19)*

*How does the Spirit of God work in tandem with the Word of God? (see 2 Peter 1:16-19)*

*The vibrant Christian life is a union of clarity in the Word and openness to the Spirit. If we seek the Spirit of God apart from the Word of God, our faith will end in shipwreck. More havoc has been wreaked in the church following the words, "The Spirit of God just said to me. . . ." than any other phrase. God's Spirit never operates independently of his Word. Why would he? Think about it: Why would he call the Scriptures a "more sure word," "fully sufficient for every good work," and then proceed to ignore, abandon, or contradict it? But, in the same way, if you seek to obey the Word apart from the power of the Spirit, not only will your spiritual life be lifeless and dull, you'll also miss out on the help God wants to give you and the most exciting things he has planned for you. You'll miss out on the dynamism of relationship.*

*- Greear*

From J.D. Greear:

The Spirit takes God's timeless truths and makes them come alive in us. He helps us understand them, shows us how to implement them, and empowers us to accomplish them. He transforms task lists into a relationship.

*The Word is eternal and unchanging.  
The Spirit's direction is temporary and varied.*

*The Word gives us promises.  
The Spirit compels us to risk in certain situations.*

*The Word outlines the mission.  
The Spirit inspires a vision.*

*The Word sets the standards.  
The Spirit guides the operations.*

*The Word shows us the end game.  
The Spirit points to a starting place.*

*The Word sets our expectations.  
The Spirit inspires our dream.*

*The Word describes the character of God.  
The Spirit pulls us into his emotions.*

*The Word recounts God's acts of salvation.  
The Spirit sheds abroad his love in our hearts.*

*The Word gives us the revelation.  
The Spirit illumines the explanation.*

*The Word provides the content.  
The Spirit brings the conviction.*

*The Word helps us to know.  
The Spirit enables us to learn.*

*The Word commands us to hear.  
The Spirit empowers us to listen.*

*The Word commands us to obey.  
The Spirit beckons us to follow.*

- He will \_\_\_\_\_ the Son.

*J. I. Packer calls the work of the Spirit a "floodlight" ministry, quietly turning everyone's attention away from himself and to the Savior. Theologian Dale Bruner calls him the "shy member of the Trinity," because he doesn't like attention on himself!*

*This means that when someone claims to be filled with the Spirit and yet spends most of his time talking about his own experiences with the Spirit, you have reason to doubt whether he really is filled with the Spirit. When the Holy Spirit speaks through someone, you tend to forget about the person speaking. You don't even really think about the Holy Spirit. You find yourself thinking about Jesus.*

- Greear

"When the Advocate comes . . . he will testify about me." (John 15:26)

"He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you." (John 16:14)

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26)

"Apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Martyn Lloyd-Jones described his relationship with the Holy Spirit this way:

*Those who have received the Holy Spirit are aware of a power dealing with them and working in them. A disturbance, something, someone interfering in our lives. We are going along, and suddenly we are arrested and pulled up, and we find ourselves different. That is the beginning; that is what always happens when the Holy Ghost begins to work in a human being. There is a disturbance, an interruption to the normal ordinary tenor of life. There is something different, an awareness of being dealt with — I cannot put it better; that is the essence of the Holy Spirit dealing with us.*

BEFORE NEXT SESSION:

Read: Ephesians 3:14-19, Jeremiah 23:23, Luke 3:21-22, Exodus 34:5-7, Jeremiah 31:33-34, Galatians 5:22-23