

The Holy Spirit - Our Help in Evangelism

John 15:26-27-16:1 (The Holy Spirit Discourses of John 14-16 Series #3)

Context: This passage shows up in the Farewell Discourse of Jesus in John (13-20). These words are instructions for all of Jesus' disciples before he went to the cross. In John 14-16, Jesus specifically teaches on the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit will help us to...

A. _____ Jesus (vs. 15:26)

1. Since the role of the Holy Spirit is to testify about the Son of God, the Spirit has a Christocentric ministry. He does not merely draw attention to himself; he draws attention to Jesus.
2. Christians should be discerning and avoiding the ministries of those who claim the Spirit's involvement yet ignore Jesus. If the Spirit makes much of Jesus, then his disciples should too.

B. _____ the Lost (vs. 15:27a)

1. "You also will bear witness." The Holy Spirit empowers believers to speak a witness to others about Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8).
2. Success in evangelism has been defined as "taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, and leaving the results up to God." (Bill Bright)

C. _____ in the faith (vs. 15:27b-16:1)

1. "Because you have been with me from the beginning." The first readers of John's gospel were aware that those who had been with Jesus from the beginning had mostly been martyred for their faith. Such awareness would prepare and challenge new believers for the persecution they would also endure.
2. Conversion to Christ will bring persecution, but the Holy Spirit will assist the believer to endure through it and to "keep you from falling away."