

**Sermon Notes of  
Pastor Craig Kuhlman's Sermon on June 21, 2020:**

**"Transformed by the Son of God:  
The Holy Spirit's Ministry  
(John 15:18-16:15) (Part 17)"**

**[In today's sermon, Pastor Craig Kuhlman on U-Tube shows us through the words of Jesus that after His death and resurrection, Jesus didn't leave us alone, but sent the comforting Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us spiritually into all truth.]**

**Notes**

Introduction:

- We need to remember that Jesus was giving His last instructions to His disciples during the Passover season.
- So, we going to see what the Holy Spirit did in the last days of Jesus and also the new, unique role that the Holy Spirit has for each of us in His ministry toward us and through us today.
- Jesus pointed out that there are 3 specific works of the Holy Spirit.
  
- And He also gives us 4 reasons why a disciple of Jesus may not be accepted, which are the same reasons why He wasn't accepted.
- Jesus also talked to them (and us) what it means to be in the world and why that creates conflict.
  
- Jesus also told His disciples that, "It's good that I go" because Jesus would be in His heavenly intermediately role and also it will allow the Holy Spirit to come in full force.

In Preview of today's message (John 15:18-16:15) – Pastor Craig's rhyming verses:

*Jesus called us apart from the World,  
That's why insults are sometimes Hurl'd.  
Jesus came to expose their Sin,  
Hate for the Father included there-In.*

*The Spirit will testify, and we will Too,  
Expulsion and murder among the Rue.  
I must go so He can Come,  
Guidance and comfort in the Sum.*

*Belief, Righteousness, Judgment are His Work,  
Returning Glory to God as a final Perk.*

Overview of today's message:

1. The 1<sup>st</sup> ministry of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit as Counselor Guides and Encourages us (John 15:18 – John 16:4)  
(This is an important way to identify that the Holy Spirit is working within us.)
  - a) We are identified with Christ (verses 18, 20) – This sets us at odds with the world's system,
  - b) We do not belong to the world (verse 19) – so we don't act always act in harmony with its ways.
  - c) The world is spiritually ignorant and blind (verse 21)
  - d) The world will not be honest about its own sin (verses 22-24, 16:1-4)
  
2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ministry of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit as Witness leads us to testify (verses 5-11)
  - a) A work of Belief (verse 9)
  - b) A work of Righteousness (verse 10)
  - c) And a work of Judgment (verse 11)
  
3. The 3<sup>rd</sup> ministry of the Holy Spirit as a Teacher who guides us (verses 12-15)

1. The Spirit as Counselor Guides and Encourages us (John 15:18 – John 16:4):

**John 15:18 (NIV), "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.**

- This is a strong statement for Jesus to make.
- Jesus is then going to tell them about His coming crucifixion, which will show the world's hatred of Him.
- And today, our life style of following Jesus can create hate against us.
- But, nevertheless, our role is to a peace maker and a peace keeper and to support those who have been mistreated.

**19) If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.**

- This shows us the context we are in and how we should respond.
- We remain in this world in order to shed light as a church.

**20) Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.**

- This is primarily religious persecution.

**21) They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me. 22) If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin.**

- Essentially, what Jesus is pointing out here is that when someone is doing something that is wrong, but don't have any idea that it's wrong, they won't know it's wrong until someone points it out.
- But Jesus had pointed out many wrong things people were doing out of ignorance.

- So, they no longer had an excuse to keep doing those things.

**23) Whoever hates me hates my Father as well. 24) If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father.**

- Jesus not only taught but also provided miracles to demonstrate the truth and give Godly conviction to those who would accept it.
- Now, one of the primary works of the Holy Spirit is conviction – and you can't make a change unless you are convicted against sin.
- If Jesus could not change every one He came in contact with, He's not pressuring us to positively impact everyone we meet.

**25) But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.'**

- This prophecy was fulfilled in Jesus' day, where many hated Jesus, without real reasons.

**26) When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father – the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father – he will testify about me. 27) And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.**

- Now, when we feel moved, the Holy Spirit testifies through us to others.

**John 16:1, "All this I have told you so that you will not fall away. 2) They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God.**

- When Jesus was crucified, the religious leaders felt that what was happening was a godly thing.
- People, today, still persecute others "in the name of God."

**3) They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me.**

- Now, believing implies an intimate relationship. So our belief in God is not an academic belief, but an experiential belief.
- When we experience and know who Jesus is, who the Father is, and who the Holy Spirit is, then that changes the world around us.
- So, we can't take our belief for granted, even though it may have happened a while ago.
- We need to share the gospel with others one on one through our friendships, but also as a church.

**4) I have told you this, so that when their time comes you will remember that I warned you about them. I did not tell you this from the beginning because I was with you,**

- Jesus is giving them an advanced warning about the hard times that they will be soon going through, but also that He will be with them in Spirit and Truth to help them.

**2. The Spirit as Witness leads us to testify (John 5-11:**

**(The 3 primary works of the Spirit is belief, righteousness and judgment.)**

**5) but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' 6) Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things.**

- It's hard for us to begin to experience the angst and then grief that the disciples went through at this time.

**7) But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.**

- Jesus wanted to re-assure them that He wasn't going to leave them alone once He died.
- He was going to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit to be with them.

**8) When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: 9) about sin, because people do not believe in me;**

- The Holy Spirit has an important role to play in advancing the truth about Jesus to the world.

**10) about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11) and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.**

- This is one of the anchors we can always hold onto when things are going bad for us or when we are experiencing despair or a certain element of depression.
- We know that the days of evil and hatred are numbered.

3. The Spirit is a teacher who guides us (verses 12-15):

**12) "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear.**

- Now, Jesus was a good teacher.
- A good teacher doesn't overly text his students.
- He knows how much students can handle and doesn't push them beyond that.
- The disciples also probably had diminished mental capacity at that time because of the grief they were experiencing.

**13) But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the 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.**

- The Holy Spirit works as a guide.
- And once we learn something as a guiding principle, it's easier to add to it and build upon it.
- The Holy Spirit doesn't dump truth upon us, but guides us to truth.
- The Holy Spirit will never overwhelm us – He's a Spirit of comfort.

**14) He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. 15) All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."**

- Jesus tells us that through this process, the Holy Spirit brings about glory to Jesus.
- The Spirit glorifies Jesus' name and also the Father's name.

In Summary of John 15:18 – John 16:1-15 (Let's say this together):

*Jesus called us apart from the World,  
That's why insults are sometimes Hurd.  
Jesus came to expose their Sin,  
Hate for the Father included there-In.*

*The Spirit will testify, and we will Too,  
Expulsion and murder among the Rue.  
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Returning Glory to God as a final Perk.*

Concluding comments:

- So, dear friends, let's take peace, let's take comfort, let's take hope in the work and the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- We can rest in the fact that even though Jesus isn't with us, today, physically, He is with us and in us spiritually, which means we're not to live life as if we are on our own.
- It is God in us, through the Holy Spirit, who makes those changes, which demonstrates the process of spiritual transformation.
- The YMCA is planning to open their doors on July 27th.
- But, it looks like August 9<sup>th</sup> that we will resume services at the YMCA.
- We will probably meet in the gymnasium because of space constraints, and will have a new mobile audio system there.

(Closing prayer)