

## THE HELP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

September 14, 2025

**Get a Grip & Get a Life // Preparing for Departure // John 16:5-15**

### **CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships**

1. Is there anything noteworthy going on in your life since last week? Where have you seen God at work in your life or the lives of others?
2. Have you ever gotten in way over your head with a task (like coaching a kids' team, setting up technology, or a home project)? Share a funny or frustrating story.
3. If you had to "call in backup" for something today, who would you call and why?

### **REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives**

4. Read John 16:5-15 [have someone read it aloud for group time]. What stood out to you in the sermon this week and what did God reveal to you in His Word, maybe for the first time?
5. In John 16:7, Jesus told the disciples it was to their advantage that He go away so the Helper could come. Why is the Holy Spirit's presence in us even better than having Jesus physically beside us?
6. The Holy Spirit convicts the world regarding sin, righteousness, and judgment. How have you seen Him do this in your own journey of faith?
7. Pastor Jeremy described how the Spirit works through us and our witness to bring conviction to the world based on John 16:7-8, where Jesus said, "I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world..." If there are people in your life or even to the ends of the earth who need to be convicted so that they will find the hope of the gospel, what should you do about it based on what Jesus says?
8. How might the Spirit use you to graciously bring conviction to people who don't yet believe?
9. In 16:13, Jesus promised the Spirit would guide us into truth. How have you experienced the Spirit's guidance in understanding Scripture or applying it?
10. What practical steps could you take this week to lean more intentionally on the Spirit's leading in decisions, conversations, or relationships?
11. What would it look like for your life to be a "5<sup>th</sup> gospel" that people read in your workplace, home, or neighborhood to showcase the Savior you've found?

### **PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)**

12. Are people or circumstances in your life "bumping" you in any way? If so, what's coming out? Or what would come out? Is your response to situations that shake you being driven by the Holy Spirit, or are you struggling with being filled with something else?



13. Share one specific area where you feel “in over your head” right now. In your sub-divided group, pray for the Spirit’s help in those exact areas along with any other prayer requests you might have.

Throughout this coming week, make a concerted effort to pray specifically for one another to live Holy Spirit-filled lives — that we would rely on His availability, trust His conviction, and follow His guidance into truth.

### Announcements

**Men: Join us for Men’s Breakfast** Our monthly men’s breakfast is on the third Sunday of each month. Unless your group meets on Sunday, that’s this coming Saturday, September 20, at 8am. Come for a hearty breakfast and some great fellowship and a devotion around the table.

**Our Vintage Visions Senior Ministry is back in full swing!** This ministry is senior-focused, but not senior-exclusive. For a list of upcoming activities, check out this link on our website: <https://nvf.life/vvevents/>

**Please be inviting folks to our 2025 Sportsman Banquet on Saturday, October 4.** We really want this event to be an outreach to men in our community. We’re investing a good bit of time, money, and resources to ensure that this will be a great event that men across our area (not just sportsmen – and perhaps some women with an appreciation for the outdoors) will enjoy. Invite your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors to check it out and register at <https://nvf.life/sportsman> (\$20 with a \$10 discount for ages 10 and under).

### Individual Options for Going Deeper

Pastor John Piper explores an interesting question – “Why did Jesus have to leave for the Holy Spirit to come?” Read and be edified by His response, as it reminds us of the importance of why He was leaving:

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/why-is-it-better-that-christ-went-away-john-16-7>