

Gospel According to John 15:20 – 16:11

New American Standard Version

1 20 Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A slave is not
2 greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will
3 also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep
4 yours also. 21 But all these things they will do to you for My
5 name’s sake, because they do not know the One who sent
6 Me. 22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not
7 have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 He
8 who hates Me hates My Father also. 24 If I had not done
9 among them the works which no one else did, they would
10 not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and
11 My Father as well. 25 But *they have done this* to fulfill the
12 word that is written in their Law, ‘THEY HATED ME
13 WITHOUT A CAUSE.’ 26 When the Helper comes, whom I will
14 send to you from the Father, *that is* the Spirit of truth who
15 proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me, 27 and
16 you *will* testify also, because you have been with Me from
17 the beginning. 16:1 These things I have spoken to you so that
18 you may be kept from stumbling. 2 They will make you
19 outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for
20 everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to
21 God. 3 These things they will do because they have not
22 known the Father or Me. 4 But these things I have spoken to
23 you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that
24 I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the
25 beginning, because I was with you. 5 But now I am going to
26 Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are
27 You going?’ 6 But because I have said these things to you,
28 sorrow has filled your heart. 7 But I tell you the truth, it is to
29 your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the
30 Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to
31 you. 8 And He, when He comes, will convict the world
32 concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; 9 concerning
33 sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning
34 righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer
35 see Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of
36 this world has been judged.

*Use the suggestions on the back page as a starting point for your own **Observation, Interpretation, and Application.***

Observation (What does it say?):

Circle what Jesus says about the Father.

Underline what Jesus says about the Spirit.

What words or phrases describe the relationship among the Father, Son, and Spirit?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

When did Jesus talk about a slave not greater than his master (line 1)? What was the context then? How is the context and the meaning related to this passage?

What reason(s) does Jesus give for what He is saying? How does that compare with the reason He gave in the previous passage?

How do the things Jesus says about the Father and the Spirit relate to His stated purpose in this passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

How might this passage affect the way you relate to the Triune God – Father, Son, and Spirit?

What does it mean to have a unique relationship with each person of the Trinity?

How does our relationship with each person of the Trinity relate to how we face troubles (the topic Jesus started with in this passage)?

Questions for further thought and discussion:

- “None of you asks Me, ‘Where are you going’” (v. 5). What about Peter’s question in 13:36? What about Thomas’ comment and question in 14:5? Hadn’t the disciples asked Him that question? What do you make of Jesus statement?
- How does the motive of serving God relate to knowing the Trinity (v. 2-3)?
- “If I had not...” (v. 22-24). What does Jesus mean, “...they would not have sin”? Does lack of hearing Jesus’ words or seeing His deeds remove accountability for sin?

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation
(What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer’s thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose (“in order that...”)?
- Are there conclusions (“Therefore...”)?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good “headline” for the passage?

Interpretation
(What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer’s thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application
(What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them. – J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)