

## John 14 (excerpts); John 16:5-15

*New American Standard Version*

14:15 “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup> **I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> *that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.* <sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.**

...

14:25 “These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. <sup>26</sup> **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.** <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. <sup>28</sup> You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

...

16:5 “But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ <sup>6</sup> But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. <sup>7</sup> **But 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.** <sup>8</sup> And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; <sup>9</sup> concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; <sup>10</sup> and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; <sup>11</sup> and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. <sup>12</sup> “I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. <sup>13</sup> But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you. <sup>15</sup> All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.

### **I believe in the Holy Spirit...**

#### **Observation (What does it say?):**

*What do you notice in this passage?*

- *Repeated words or ideas?*
- *Comparisons or contrasts?*
- *Purpose or explanation?*
- *Unusual or symbolic language?*
- *Commands or instructions?*
- *Conditional (if–then) statements?*
- *Other observations?*

#### **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**

*After observing the passage:*

- *What parts seem clear and straightforward?*
- *What parts seem unclear or confusing?*
- *What questions come to mind as you read?*
- *What do you learn about the relationships among Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?*

#### **Application (What does it mean for me?):**

- *How do these passages affect your understanding of the Father?*
- *How do these passages affect your understanding of the Son?*
- *How do these passages affect your understanding of the Holy Spirit?*
- *How well to the Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed represent these passages?*

**Additional questions for thought and discussion:**

- From these passages, what do you think about the “filioque,” the addition of the phrase “and from the Son” that caused the division of the Eastern and Western churches?

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## 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)**