



Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 40

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 16:1-15

Summary:

In this text, Jesus continues his pattern of warning his disciples of the difficulties to come as they seek to follow him, while also offering hope for sustenance and salvation even in the face of persecution. Here, Jesus gives his followers reason to 'count the cost' of following him – like Jesus himself, those who walk with him will suffer the hatred of the world. But in the midst of that suffering, the promise of the Holy Spirit comes – One who will guide the disciples in the truth and will glorify the Son.

Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?
2. Why do you think Jesus is so explicit about the dangers and suffering that come with following him? What's his purpose with this discourse (esp. vv. 1-4)?
3. **Application:** How should we receive the words of vv. 1-4 as American Christians living in Phoenix in 2020? How might Jesus' warning help us avoid "falling away" (v. 1)?
4. Why were the disciples full of sorrow (v. 6)? Notice that Jesus didn't share the full extent of what awaited the disciples earlier, but waited until this late date (see v. 4b). Why do you think he waited?

5. Why was it an “advantage” to the disciples of Jesus that he leave them?

6. What’s the Holy Spirit’s role in the disciples’ lives (vv. 8-11, 13)?

7. **Application:** How do you observe the Holy Spirit acting in your own life in some of the ways you noticed above in question 6?

8. How does Jesus still speak to his disciples (v. 12-15)? What are some indications that a message is truly from the Holy Spirit?

9. **Application:** Are you sensitive to the guidance (v. 13), conviction (v. 8), and declarations of (v. 14) the Holy Spirit? How might we become more aware of and responsive to the Spirit’s guidance?

10. How would you ‘title’ this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?