

Journey Navigator

John 15:26-16:15

Discover

A journey is the course of travel towards a particular destination for a specific purpose. A navigator is a person who guides someone or a group along an expedition.

Jesus said that he and the Father will make their home inside each person who loves and follows him. God lives within us when we believe in Jesus and repent of evil. He sends the Holy Spirit to live in us, teach us everything we need to know, and give us relieving peace. (John 14:16-27)

After Jesus' resurrection, he visited his disciples and spoke peace over them. He commissioned them to share the good news with all the nations; then, he breathed upon them so they would receive the Holy Spirit. (John 20:19-23)

Isaiah describes the Holy Spirit as our Teaching Companion. He teaches us how to walk along righteous paths and discern God's directions. He comforts us through mourning and assists us in identifying our idols. (Isaiah 30:19-22)

Paul says the Holy Spirit's presence provides freedom. We must confess that we are slaves to evil and turn to the Lord. Then, he destroys our bondage and unveils his glory. We only see God clearly through the Holy Spirit, who shepherds us to be more like Jesus. (2 Corinthians 3:16-18)

This lesson teaches us to listen to the Holy Spirit. He is with us: one of God's greatest gifts to creation. The Holy Spirit is our greatest resource on earth. He is God with us, and he always speaks into our hearts and minds what the Father and Son are saying. We do not have to worry about how to witness to others, because the Holy Spirit will teach us what to say each moment as we listen to him. (Matthew 10:19-20)



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Draw

Truth Advocate: flame, cloud, & crown - The Holy Spirit is like a fire from heaven speaking the revelations of God the Father and God the Son to us. An advocate is a spokesperson for someone else. The Spirit testifies to us, and then we turn around and testify to others. (15:26-27)

Persecution Prophecy: disciple, cross, & road - Jesus prophesied that his disciples will face great persecution for following him. Persecution is a test of our faith. When we face condemnation and pain, we struggle to endure. (16:1-4)

Grieving Heart: broken heart & tears - Imagine what it must have been like for the disciples who were with Jesus to realize he would leave them. Their hearts were broken, and their eyes shed many tears over his departure. (16:5-6)

Heaven Doorway: open door & sunrise - Jesus had to ascend back to heaven. He is the incarnate Son of God. He lives in his resurrected body and cannot be everywhere. He ascended to send the Holy Spirit to live within us and speak God's revelations to us, so that we will know his will. (16:7-8)

Eternal Pathways: disciple, paths, serpent, & Jesus - The Holy Spirit serves God in very specific roles: being present within us, convicting our hearts of evil, training us in holy living, and teaching disciples about spiritual realms, angels and demons, and the approach of Judgement Day. (16:8-11)

Wonderful Counselor: archer, arrow, & target - We cannot handle all of Jesus' revelations at once, so the Holy Spirit helps us focus on specific truths. The Holy Spirit counsels us in Jesus' will and unveils glimpses of the future. (16:12-13)

Trinity Champion: flame, heart, & crown - The Holy Spirit is a faithful servant to the Father and Son; he brings them glory and passes along to us whatever he receives. (16:14-15)

Discuss

Read John 16:1-4. Why does Jesus teach about the Holy Spirit's work in the context of persecution and suffering? How can we include persecution and suffering as a natural part of the gospel message when we share with others?

Read Matthew 3:11-17. How does John the Baptizer describe the Holy Spirit? Why does John hesitate to baptize Jesus? How does Jesus' baptism story clearly reveal the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? How does Jesus bring our Father joy?

Read Acts 16:6-15. How do we witness the Holy Spirit's work in this story? Have you ever experienced the Holy Spirit trying to stop you from doing something? What happened? How was the Holy Spirit preparing Lydia for salvation?

Read Revelation 3:20-22. How do we listen to the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit's voice sound like to you? How do we experience fellowship with God through the Spirit? What is the Holy Spirit saying to your church today?

Disciple

Let's get practical. The Bible uses specific words to explain how to hear the Holy Spirit: be still, listen, hear, discern, understand, and receive. What environment do you need to listen to the Holy Spirit? How can you discern between the voice of God, your own thoughts, and the devil's temptations? Take five minutes now to pray and listen.

Dedicate

Father, we want to hear your voice and understand your will. Thank you for sending Jesus to rescue us out of death. Thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to live in us and speak to us. We quiet our hearts now and open up the door to hear you, in Jesus' name and for his glory we pray, amen.