Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John January 24th, 2021 Jeff Bruce, Lead Pastor

Better than We Imagined – The Work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:5-15)

"...it is to your advantage that I go away" – Jesus (John 16:7)

1. The Spirit's Work in the World (vv. 8-11)

2. The Spirit's Work through the Word (vv. 12-15)

For Further Thought and Discussion:

Getting Started:

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?

Going Deeper:

- Jesus' says that it's to the disciples' advantage that he goes away (v. 7). Why? What do Jesus' departure and the Spirit's arrival signify (see Joel 2:28-32; Ezekiel 36:26-36)? In what sense is Jesus leaving the disciples? In what sense *isn't* he leaving them (see John 14:16-18)?
- In vv. 8-11, Jesus' describes the Spirit's work in the world; he convicts the world concerning sin (v. 9; see John 3:18, 36), righteousness, and judgment (see John 7:24; 8:16, 42-47). Describe each of these functions in more detail. How does the Spirit prosecute the world? What's the goal of his convicting work?
- 4. Read vv. 12-15. How will the Spirit guide the disciples? What truth will he help them grasp (compare with 14:6)? What were the disciples able to grasp only after the coming of the Spirit?

Application:

- 5. Jeff drew three implications from vv. 8-11: (1) because the Spirit of God convicts of sin (v. 9), we are freed to be gentle; (2) because the Spirit of God convicts of righteousness (v. 10), we are freed to be authentic; (3) because the Spirit of God convicts of judgment (v. 11), we are freed to be patient and prayerful. Discuss each of these implications. How have you seen the Spirit work in these ways? Which of these stood out to you? Which is most relevant to you personally? Why?
- 6. Describe the relationship between God's Spirit and God's Word (see Ephesians 6:17)? How does the Spirit of God use the Word of God to accomplish the will of God? How does this clarify our responsibility in making disciples? What are we responsible to do? What can only the Spirit do?
- 7. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?