

## **The Comfort and Conviction of the Holy Spirit**

**John 16:4-11**

**June 14, 2026**

You need a golf coach.

### **The Comfort of the Holy Spirit v. 4-7**

Does the Holy Spirit replace Jesus?

Which is better, the physical presence of Jesus, or the presence of the Holy Spirit?

None of you asks Me where I am going! I thought Peter did?

Jesus' departure meant great things! It was a net benefit! Why?

They should have rejoiced! Instead, only sorrow filled their hearts.

What were the benefits of His departure? (John 7:39)

### **The Conviction of the Holy Spirit v. 8-11**

What is conviction?

It is a legal pronouncement - guilty. And it is feeling that guilt.

It constitutes an urgent call to repentance.

### **Convict of Sin v. 9**

Unbelief is the greatest sin.

The Spirit makes us feel guilty.

### **Convict of Righteousness v. 10**

The world's righteousness, isn't really righteousness.

We all think that we do the right thing, all the time.

If you grade yourself on a curve you look pretty good.

There was a time when I did not like godly people.

Jesus was declared to be righteous by His resurrection and ascension.

## **Convict of Judgment v. 11**

We all have our standards, our philosophy of life.

The world sees the world in a false light.

### **We Need a Better Golf Coach**

How did the disciples carry out the mission of Jesus in the fallen world?

### **Meditation**

The word convict is a translation of the Greek word *elencho*, which means "to convince someone of the truth; to reprove; to accuse, refute, or cross-examine a witness." The Holy Spirit acts as a prosecuting attorney Who exposes evil, reproves evildoers, and convinces people that they need a Savior. To be convicted is to feel the sheer loathsomeness of sin. This happens when we've seen God's beauty, His purity and holiness, and when we recognize that sin cannot dwell with Him (Psalm 5:4). When Isaiah stood in the presence of God, he was immediately overwhelmed by his own sinfulness: "Woe to me! . . . I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips . . . and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty" (Isaiah 6:5). To be convicted is to experience an utter dreadfulness of sin. Our attitude toward sin becomes that of Joseph who fled temptation, crying out, "How could I do this great evil and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9).

We are convicted when we become mindful of how much our sin dishonors God. When David was convicted by the Holy Spirit, he cried out, "Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight" (Psalm 51:4). David saw his sin primarily as an affront to a holy God. We are convicted when we become intensely aware of the wrath it exposes to our souls (Romans 1:18; Romans 2:5). When the Philippian jailer fell at the apostles' feet and cried, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" he was under conviction (Acts 16:30). He was certain that, without a Savior, he would die. When the Holy Spirit convicts people of their sin, He represents the righteous judgment of God (Hebrews 4:12). There is no appeal of this verdict. The Holy Spirit not only convicts people of sin, but He also brings them to repentance (Acts 17:30; Luke 13:5). The Holy Spirit brings to light our relationship to God. The convicting power of the Holy Spirit opens our eyes to our sin and opens our hearts to receive His grace (Ephesians 2:8).

We praise the Lord for the conviction of sin. Without it, there could be no salvation. No one is saved apart from the Spirit's convicting and regenerating work in the heart. The Bible teaches that all people are by nature rebels against God and hostile to Jesus Christ. They are "dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1). Jesus said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father Who sent Me draws him" (John 6:44). Part of that "draw" to Jesus is the conviction of sin.

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